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THE MASSACRES IN TURKEY.

A SYRIAN has been advertised to lecture at the Young Men's Christian Association, attired in his native costume, and on the subject of his native land. Even this, we are afraid, will not help us much in finding a solution to the difficult Eastern Question, of which the mysteries and intricacies seem daily to increase. The lecturer's discourse will, doubtless, prove him to be a Christian, just as his costume will prove him to be a Syrian; and we may expect that he will be somewhat hard upon the Druses, who, if we may rely on the accounts that reach us from English as well as from French and German sources, are, indeed, nothing less than bloodthirsty savages. But we know from the exploits of the Montenegrin Christians against the Mohammedans at the foot of their mountains, and of the Christians of the Georgian plains against the Mohammedan Highlanders of the Caucasus, that it is not among the Mussulmen alone that massacres of the unfaithful are, from time to time, practised; and it is certain that the destruction of Maronites by Druses, and of Druses by Maronites, took place in 1840, during the Mehmet Ali complications, and also immediately before the Russian war, just as it takes place now—with this difference, however, that at present the Druses appear decidedly to have got the upperhand of the Maronites, and to be murdering them by wholesale. We must remember, too, that if between Druses and Maronites, in point of civilisation and conduct, there is actually but little to choose, there can be no doubt as to whether our sympathies should be engaged on the side of Mohammedanism or of Christianity, nor as to which of the two is as much as possible a religion of intolerance and of the sword, and which, as much as possible, a religion of toleration and of peace.

The real difference between religious persecution in Turkey and religious persecution in other European countries is that in Turkey a faith is persecuted in which all Europe believes. This must surely count for something, and to it we may add (what should, perhaps, be considered first) that in other European countries, even where liberty of worship is not the law of the

land, the Government has both sufficient conscience and sufficient energy to restrain such violence and murder as the Christian and Mohammedan subjects of the Porte habitually render themselves guilty of—and, just now, to the injury and destruction of the former. Those journalists who think Turkey is to be strengthened by being left to her own misgovernment, and who, a year or two since, described our Consul at Bucharest as "over-sensitive" because he objected to a party of Turkish soldiers throwing paving-stones at his head and pursuing him with the bayonet along the ramparts of the town, are now inclined to lay too much stress on the equal culpability of Druses and Maronites, in the never-ending combats between those members of rival creeds, or, we should rather say, of hostile tribes, and compare their bloody wars and cruel massacres to the Twelfth-of-July rows between Orangemen and Papists in Ireland. But if an Orangeman even insults a Papist in any grievous manner he can be prosecuted; and the followers of "Dutch Bill" are equally bound by law to preserve an orderly demeanour, and for any breach of the peace are, as a matter of course, punished. Unfortunately, the latest intelligence from the East proves only too clearly the absurdity and gross injustice of comparing these ferocious onslaughts of the Mohammedans upon the Christians of Turkey to the disgraceful but comparatively harmless shillelagh festivities of the Irish. News has arrived from Vienna to the effect that a massacre has taken place at Damascus resembling more nearly than any that has occurred of late years that terrible one of Scio. According to this account five hundred Christians have been murdered, among whom is the Dutch Consul. The American Consul, too, is said to have been wounded, so that both Holland and the United States will have cause—not to say necessity—for "interference in the affairs of Turkey," as well as Russia, always ready for such an opportunity, and France and England, who, willing or unwilling, are bound in this as in a previous instance to see that their protégé behaves to some extent like a civilised Power. Russia has long denied that the Sultan possesses either the willing-

ness or the ability to protect his Christian subjects. England has maintained the contrary of both these negatives; and France (while complaining of the ill-treatment of the Catholics in Turkey—a complaint which was, in fact, the starting-point of the Russian war) has, nevertheless, agreed with England in so far that she has fought side by side with her in maintenance of Abdul Medjid's right and capability to govern his own dominions, and has, in a certain way, made herself sponsor, with England, for that Potentate's good conduct. A letter from Beyrout published in the *Patrie*, of which the substance seems to be confirmed, or at least to derive an air of great probability from news still more recent sent by telegraph, informs us that there are already (June 25) four English men-of-war in the roads, besides one Russian and three French; and that the Russian and English commanders state that they have full powers to bombard the city in case of any fresh disturbance. At Deir-el-Kamar, in the vicinity of Beyrout, there was but little probability of a "fresh disturbance," inasmuch as all the Christian inhabitants of the town had been killed. The letter which conveys this information, though printed in the *Patrie*, appears, on the whole, worthy of credence. Nor is the story of the massacre in the neighbourhood of Beyrout a whit more horrible than that of the subsequent one at Damascus, communicated to us via Vienna. Whether it be the interest of the Russians, or of the French, or of both combined, that the Christians of Turkey should now and then be murdered by the Mohammedans, it is certain that, from time to time, the Mohammedans of Turkey do murder the Christians; and it is neither moral nor honourable, nor, on the part of England, even politic, to allow these butcheries to be perpetrated with impunity.

The *Patrie* statement that the arrival of troops from Constantinople can do no good, and that "the forces now at Beyrout would have been quite sufficient if the Government had seriously intended to prevent what has taken place," must, on the other hand, be received with caution; and we believe, for our part, that the Sultan is quite disposed to see justice done



VOLUNTEERS FOR GARIBALDI ENROUTE TO PALERMO.

to his Christian subjects, knowing, as he must know, that the existence of his empire depends on nothing so much as on that. If the Emperor of the French wishes for a disturbance in the East, now, it may be thought, is his time for administering, separately, or in consultation with Russia, such a pill to the "sick man" as may effectually prevent his recovery. But it is probable that France, and certain that Russia—with serfs to liberate, railways to construct, money to borrow, and an entire official system to reorganise—does not wish to precipitate events in Turkey, which can never again be a formidable Power, and which in a dozen years will be as weak, if not weaker, than she is now. France, Russia, and England may unite in impressing upon the Porte the necessity of making some terrible examples among the perpetrators of the recent massacres, and, if necessary, may themselves inflict summary vengeance on such of the Druses as happen to be within their reach; but, as long as the Sultan gives evidence of anything like readiness and determination to repress the bigotry and ferocity of his Mohammedan subjects, there is no chance of our Government joining in any such absurd combination, or taking part in any such inglorious blunder, as Navarino certainly was, viewed from our recent and actual English point of view.

VOLUNTEERS FOR GARIBALDI EN ROUTE FOR PALERMO.

THE hopes of freedom for Sicily are being strengthened day by day, and, if the present patriotic spirit should continue, Messina and Naples must follow Palermo. General Garibaldi will soon possess an army with which he can commence such decisive operations as will make his success no longer a matter of doubt; and the rapid organisation which he is introducing amongst the Sicilians is already inspiring the most timid with enthusiasm. No fewer than four thousand volunteers had left Sardinia for Sicily during the past week, while eighteen thousand had given in their names to Dr. Bertram's committee, and twenty thousand to another society extending from Turin to other towns and cities. It is believed that another column, numbering some fifteen hundred, left on Saturday last by the *Torino*, a steamer once belonging to the Transatlantic Company.

The principal part of these troops for Garibaldi, however, left Genoa on the 9th. Three thousand men were conveyed safely to Palermo on board the *Washington* and two other vessels, commanded by American captains, and sailing under American colours.

Although the *Washington* was but a steamer of 400 tons, at least 1400 men were stowed on board; the inconvenience of their situation being considerably augmented by the fact that the provisions were not readily obtained, although there were plenty on board. Indeed, at first, a little biscuit was as much as fell to the share of most of the men, who, however, displayed the utmost cheerfulness and good temper, notwithstanding that the accommodation would scarcely admit of everybody lying down at night, and some were compelled to stand.

They go out as liberators, and hardships seem only the insignificant accompaniments of an expedition undertaken for a glorious purpose and sustained by national enthusiasm. On the 11th inst. the vessels passed Capraia—Garibaldi's Island. One can easily imagine the interest displayed by the volunteers as they stood upon the deck—a crowd of patriots seeking the leader whose name seems to promise victory.

There was an Englishman amongst them, of course. Where is there not an Englishman, if fun, danger, excitement, and, we may add, anything like "a row" gives him an opportunity of "a change of scene." But the gentleman on board the *Washington* has been long distinguished as being identified with the movement, and was no other than the famous Captain Peard, about to join Garibaldi as Captain of the 2nd Pavia Brigade.

The troops reached Cagliari on the 12th, where Colonel Medici, their commander, divided them by hiring two brigades for the purpose.

It was a noble and a touching sight to see these 3000 Sicilian exiles returning to help their country; and, as they stood there in their uniform of white blouses and blue or grey coats faced with red, hopes for liberty stirring every heart, they may well claim the sympathy of every nation where freedom is more than a name, or where courage is still admired and counted amongst the virtues.

A FRENCH DEBATE.

THE debates in the Corps Legislatif are assuming a certain degree of importance, and people, after a long period of indifference, begin to read them with an interest which was believed to have died away for ever. The debate on the budget has afforded an occasion to M. Jules Favre and M. Emile Olivier, among others, to touch on certain delicate points of domestic policy, while those in the Chamber whose political existence depends on the suppression of free speech struggle desperately to keep down the spirit that is now and then evoked. A few days since M. Jules Favre criticised with just severity the report on the budget, and he described, to the apparent satisfaction of a considerable section of the Chamber, "both the reporter and his political doctrine as belonging to the theory of the partisans of beatitude and panegyric." He exposed the manner in which the reporter made out a budget, not merely in equilibrium but with a surplus revenue of 1,544,985fr., and he proved that his pretended surplus was a mockery, for "the reporter himself admits that he only obtained that result by not including in his budget certain expenses which are considered as extraordinary; and it must not be forgotten," said M. Favre, "that last week 400,000,000fr. of such expenses were voted." After pointing out the hollowness of the financial statement, he alluded in very direct terms to the repressive policy of the Government at home. He showed that by such excessive severity "the throne of Napoleon I. was broken to pieces, and that France expiated her previous successes by lamentable reverses. And it is precisely," continued M. Favre, "because I find the same exaggeration of a concentrated power to-day that I deem it a duty, at a moment when vote of confidence is demanded, to criticise these tendencies of the Government."

After various interruptions from M. de Morny, President of the Chamber, M. Favre asked, "Where would the present Government be if 1848 had not existed?"

The President again interrupted, and said, "You are quite right," amid the general and approving laughter of the Assembly.

M. de Morny did not expect the retort that followed. "Yes," cried M. Favre, "I am, indeed, right. The President admits it, and history proclaims it. If 1848 did not exist—if it was illegitimate—then all you have to do is to call back the Princes of the house of Orleans—restore to them the crown, and," turning with a withering glance to M. Baroche, and pointing with his finger, "give them back the patrimony you have taken from them."

M. de Morny again tried to interrupt the speaker, and to explain his own words. He spoke about a country, harassed by revolutionary disorders, abandoning itself to him who secures order and authority. M. Favre again resumed, and was again and again interrupted. He alluded to the press, and asked if the press of France was free? A member cried out that "It was free enough!" and another, named Belmontet, who passes for a poet, and to whom consequently fiction is familiar, added that "It was free for good, and not free for evil." M. Favre continued some time longer. He contrasted France under the first Empire with France under the Republic. The consequence of the one was two invasions; the other repelled foreign invaders twice. "The conclusion to be drawn from all this," said M. Favre, "is that a people is never powerful but on condition of being free; that for a people independence, dignity, freedom of action, are far more than treasures only in appearance inexhaustible; that when a people have lost their liberty they ought without rest or truce to demand it back again, and that they should never abandon themselves to a deceptive security, nor to vain illusions, nor to blind enthusiasm."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

It seems that the assertions of Mr. Kinglake in the House of Commons concerning what took place between the two Emperors at Villafranca were known the same night at Paris, for next day's *Constitutionnel* came out with a very angry article, from the pen of M. Grandguillot, accusing the Orleanist and Legitimist parties of plotting for sowing dissensions and distrust between France, on one side, and Great Britain, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Italy, and Portugal, on the other, by ascribing to the Emperor of the French purposes against the peace of Europe which he has never entertained. The Emperor, says the *Constitutionnel*, "would despise all such insinuations had they not, unhappily, found too ready credence in Europe, thus encouraging a distrust which is injurious to the progress of affairs."

The *Constitutionnel* publishes an article, signed by M. Grandguillot, in reference to the massacres which have taken place in Syria. M. Grandguillot says:—"Turkey is either powerless, or has no foresight. The evil which has been committed is great; but Europe, having knowledge of the same, will neither permit its continuation nor its renewal, and will remember her duties towards populations who have been too long oppressed, and for three centuries have endured servitude to Turkey."

The withdrawal of the project of law on the exportation of rags is spoken of.

The *Toulonnais* publishes an itinerary of the Emperor's projected tour in the month of August. His Majesty, it states, will leave Paris on the 16th or 17th of that month, and proceed direct to Chambéry; thence, successively, to Annecy, Toulon, Nice, Ajaccio, Algiers, Marseilles, and thence either to Paris or Biarritz. The whole journey will occupy about twenty days.

La Patrie prints a significant paragraph:—"The Emperor has taken the initiative among the great Powers for the introduction into the council board of Europe of a sixth great Power—Spain. The proposal has been favourably received by those Cabinets."

SPAIN.

Some sensation has been caused in Madrid by various political rumours, and among them one that Spain was about to send 23,000 men to the assistance of the King of Naples, but the Ministerial organs declare them unfounded.

ITALY.

SARDINIA.

Signori Manna and Winspeare, the Neapolitan Plenipotentiaries, were received on Tuesday by Count Cavour.

Five great military camps are to be formed about the end of August in the neighbourhood of Turin, Alessandria, Milan, Florence, and Bologna.

A Royal decree has appeared ordering that the sum of 200,000 livres shall be annually inscribed in the Budget of the Civil List, to be distributed half-yearly, by way of subsidy to the most deserving parish curés of the old provinces of the State.

ROME.

There have been some serious disturbances in the Umbrian Marches, but they have been quelled at present.

The Duke of Grammont had a long conference with the Pope on the 13th.

A Secret Consistory was held on Friday week, in which it is stated that the Pope pronounced an allocution against the evil attempts, the violence, the arrests, and condemnations to which the priests were subjected in the Romagna and the Duchies.

AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Minister of Finance has made a communication to the Budget Committee that, should peace be confirmed in Europe, the Austrian Government is prepared to make fresh reductions in the effective force of the army, with a view to limit the whole military expenditure to about eight million pounds yearly. This would suffice to prevent already in the Budget for 1861 any excess of the expenditure over the increase, by enabling the Government to save thirty millions florins against the original estimates.

A letter from Berlin says that negotiations are still going on between Austria and Prussia, with a view to a more amicable understanding between the two countries. The *Siebanian Mercury* states that agitation in Hungary is increasing, and that the Austrian Government has been obliged to send troops into the comitat of Gomor to put down some disturbances. According to letters from Pesth, of the 5th, a national demonstration took place on the preceding evening at the Hungarian theatre in that city. In the course of the representation of "Norma" by an Italian company the spectators, at a given signal, displayed the national colours, which are the same as those of Italy (red, white, and green), and raised enthusiastic *eljes* in honour of Garibaldi and Victor Emmanuel.

GREECE.

There has been a change in the Greek Ministry. M. Comoundouras, the Minister of Finance, having retired, the Ministry has been reformed as follows:—Miaoulis, Marine, President of the Council; Botzaris, War; Conduriotis, Foreign Affairs; Potlis, Justice and Public Worship; Lycurgus Cretenites, Interior; Eustache Simos, Finances. The Princes of Orleans, Count de Paris and Duc de Chartres, arrived at Athens from Constantinople on the 1st of July; they were received by the King and Queen. The King paid them a visit next day. They paid a rapid visit to the antiquities, and left.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

A letter from Constantinople in the *Gazette de Lyon* says:—"The Grand Vizier has discovered that the corps-d'armée in Roumelia does not count more than two-thirds of the number which is set down in the budget of the war department; that the unfortunate soldiers are half-starved and in want of clothing; and that desertion is acquiring the most alarming proportions. This does not, however, prevent Riza Pacha, Minister of War, from maintaining his budget precisely the same as if the regiments had their full complement, and as if the troops were well supplied with everything they stand in need of. Mehemet Kibrialy Pacha has written to the Porte begging that Riza Pacha may come and judge from personal inspection of the state of the troops, and whether it is possible to rely on them in case of need in the state in which they now are. Upwards of 5000 deserters are said to be already on the high roads, robbing every one they meet. Riza Pacha, alarmed at this despatch, went to the Sultan and made him believe that it was nothing but an intrigue, and that he would resign rather than proceed to Roumelia. The Sultan, who is powerless before his War Minister, and particularly when the latter comes to see him at Top-Hane, tranquillised him by saying that he would make peace for him with the Grand Vizier when the latter returned from his mission."

AMERICA.

The Japanese Embassy took their final departure from the United States, on the 30th of June, in the frigate *Niagara*.

The eighty-fourth anniversary of the independence of the United States has been celebrated with great enthusiasm.

The American Secretary of the Legation to China had arrived at Washington bearing the ratification of the treaty, and an autograph letter from the Emperor of China.

The barque *Kate*, Captain Otto, had been seized off York on suspicion of being a slaver.

A large meeting of the Democratic party was held in Tammany Hall, New York, on the 2nd inst., to ratify the nomination of Douglas for the Presidency, and Mr. Johnson for the Vice-Presidency.

The case of the capture of Miramon's two steamers, the *Marques* and the *Habana*, which was recently tried at New Orleans, had been decided, the Judge having declared these steamers not to be lawful prizes, and ordered their restitution. The claim for indemnity was withdrawn.

The latest advices reported from Mexico state that the clerical party had been defeated by the Liberals, and that Miramon had been taken prisoner near Salamanca.

INDIA.

At a meeting of the Legislative Council on the 2nd of June Mr. Wilson presented the report on the bill for licensing of arts, trades, and professions, and stated that no material alteration had been effected in the bill in committee, but an addition had been made to it of very great importance. It will be remembered that one of the means by which it was proposed to improve the revenues of India was a tobacco tax, but the Government at that time had reserved the consideration of the best manner of levying it. They have at last come to the conclusion that the wisest and best mode in which they can impose this tax which will least interfere with trade, and will enable the revenue to be collected at the smallest expense to Government, will be by a license tax. Government has therefore thought it proper to add special clauses to the License Bill to effect this.

A large meeting of the natives had been held at Bombay to vote an address of sympathy to Sir Charles Trevelyan.

The *Hurkaru* says:—"Lord Canning has given his strong adherence and support to Mr. Wilson's measures, and there is no doubt they will be carried, with a few modifications, in detail."

The dissatisfaction among the people of Oude consequent on the imposition of an income tax is reported to have subsided.

The troops sent against the Mahsood Wuzerees have returned to the Punjab, having destroyed several towns and captured large numbers of cattle.

A portion of the Yoonzaleen levy stationed in Martaban has mutinied and deserted. The mutineers are being pursued.

Lord Clyde has arrived in England. His Lordship is said to have left India under a cloud, arising from his having written a minute disparaging the military capacity of the officers of the Indian Army.

CHINA.

Advices from Hong-Kong to May 26 inform us that a great part of the British force was in movement for Chusan, where it was supposed it was to rendezvous. The French force was reported to be about to rendezvous at Che-Foo, on the coast of Shan-Tung and in the Gulf of Pechili; and there was to be also a station for British stores and troops on the opposite side of the Gulf. It was reported that the Chinese had thrown up an extensive line of fortifications on the banks of the Peiho. It also appears from the *Pekin Gazette* that trenches or rifle-pits are to be used by the Chinese, and from their own invention.

NAPLES AND SICILY.

Four of the great European Powers—if we are to believe the reports from Naples—are now busily engaged in effecting the reconciliation of Sardinia with Naples, which forms part of the policy of the new Neapolitan Ministry. These four Powers are Russia, France, England, and Prussia. There are, however, no distinct projects ascribed to diplomacy with regard to Sicily. The idea entertained at Naples is that of Sicily being placed in the same position towards Naples as Norway stands to Sweden; and it is even said that, in a short time, a General Envoy is to be sent over to Palermo to make propositions in this sense.

Meanwhile things wear a threatening aspect at Naples. It seems that a reactionary movement among the troops has encouraged the Court to venture upon a career of resistance against the movement, which has been provoked by members of the Court itself. The troops have made some demonstration in favour of the Count of Trani, the King's brother, who has always been averse to Francis following the advice of his Liberal uncles. Rumours soon spread of a change in the King's disposition, and uneasiness prevailed in consequence in the city. On Tuesday the definitive rupture took place. The arrival of some refugees having been made the occasion of popular demonstrations, a conflict ensued between the troops and the populace, in which various lives were lost. The new Ministry has, in consequence, been dismissed by the King, and the Chevalier San Martino alone—the same who went on that fruitless mission to Paris—has been preserved by him as his Constitutional adviser. Another account says that the attack of the soldiery on the masses present at the disembarkation of the refugees was no premeditated affair on the part of King Francis at least. An inquiry had been instituted, and the King had been to the barracks of the Guards, whom he harangued on account of the excesses committed by them.

The news from Sicily is grave. The complete rupture between Garibaldi and Count Cavour can hardly any longer form a matter of doubt. Not merely has the Dictator's Government been reformed in a sense hostile to the leading Sardinian statesmen, but the conspicuous personages, to whom Count Cavour's recommendation is said to have served as an introduction in Palermo, have been forcibly removed from the island. These personages are Signori La Farina, Griselli, and Totti. La Farina has published his account of the differences between General Garibaldi and himself. The following are the principal passages:—

The causes of my differences with General Garibaldi, since it is desired that I should speak at any cost, were as follows:—I believed, and still believe, that the only salvation for Sicily is immediate annexation to the constitutional kingdom of Victor Emmanuel, the most ardent wish of all the Sicilians, already manifested by the chiefs of more than 300 municipal bodies. General Garibaldi believed, and perhaps still believes, that the annexation should be postponed till the liberation of all Italy, including Venetia and Rome, had been effected. I believed, and still believe, that it was a great act of imprudence to confide a share of authority and of the public forces to Ministers like Crispi, unpopular (I do not know whether rightly or wrongly) with the great majority of the Sicilians; to Ministers like Raffaele, Bourbonist in 1847, Republican in 1848, deputy of Filangieri and member of the Bourbon municipal government in 1849; or to a notorious Mazzinian like Mario, or to an abhorred Bourbonist like Scordato and Miceli, who, after betraying the Revolution of 1848, have fought against the insurgents in 1860; or, lastly, to men who have been made infamous through all Europe as the inventors of most atrocious tortures against the Liberals. General Garibaldi believed, and still believes, that the union of such elements can be useful to the national cause.

It grieved me that every method was tried of discrediting in the eyes of the public the Piedmontese Government and Statesmen to whom Italy owes so much; it grieved me that the men most devoted to the national cause, and who have done and suffered the most in the Sicilian revolution, and all the most able and intelligent men, should be excluded from the administration of public affairs; that all administrative order should be disregarded, that all the tribunals should be closed, that there should be no force to protect public security, that men of no reputation or of bad reputation should (with three or four honourable exceptions) be chosen governors of districts, with full powers; that furious opposition should be made to the institution of a National Guard, the only palladium of order in a country where there are neither magistrates, nor gendarmes, nor police; it grieved me that the country, while most averse to Mazzinianism in Italy; it grieved me, in fine, that all the most incorrigible Mazzinians in Italy; it grieved me, in fine, that while the press was intimidated to such a degree that a journalist was threatened with death for having written a short article against Mazzini, the *Procuratore* was permitted to appear—a journal edited by the former editors of the *Italia e Popolo*, which in one of its numbers declared that the Piedmontese Government wished for the annexation of Sicily in order that it might hand her over to the Bourbons of Naples, and thus gain their alliance.

These are the reasons of my discontent, which I manifested frankly and without bitterness to General Garibaldi, who during the first days of my stay in Sicily was always courteous and kind to me, notwithstanding the accusations of my being Count Cavour's friend, of my having voted for Central Savoy and Nice treaty, and having thwarted his enterprise in Central Italy. That my views coincide with the public opinion of Sicily is shown by the fact of the Crispi Ministry having had to give way before a popular demonstration, although the Dictator had declared that it had his entire confidence. It is further shown clearly, by the names of the new Ministry, Natoli, La Loggia, D'Aiuta, La Porta, and Lanza, all honest and respectable men, inclined to immediate annexation to a free and constitutional Government.

Garibaldi's Ministry has, in fact, been changed three times within a month.

The Neapolitan ship-of-war *Velece*, 8 guns, has gone over to Garibaldi. Besides her own guns she had eight field-pieces on board. Two mercantile steamers have also passed over to the General, and he

has recently purchased several large vessels in this country. Meanwhile the Neapolitan navy is not to be depended on by the King.

There has been some severe fighting before Messina between the flying Neapolitan column under Colonel Bosco's command and the vanguard of the patriot army. Later advices inform us that Garibaldi had joined Colonel Medici, at the village of Barcelona, with 3000 volunteers. Colonel Bosco had made a sortie from Messina with 4000 men and three guns. An engagement between the two armies was imminent. The reinforcements received by Garibaldi through Colonel Cosenz are not limited to men—they include a sum of a million lire, or about £36,000, and fifty-six pieces of cannon.

MEETING OF THE PRUSSIAN REGENT AND THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.

Advices from Vienna announce the proximate departure of the Emperor of Austria for Toeplitz, where he is to meet the Prince Regent of Prussia.

THE MASSACRES IN SYRIA.

RECENT accounts from the coast of Syria have realised all our worst fears. On the 9th of this month the city of Damascus was attacked by the Druses, and 500 Christians are said to have perished, the women being carried off for the harems. The Consulates, with the exception of the English, were burnt down. The Dutch Consul is said to have been killed, and the American Consul wounded. The French, Russian, and Greek Consuls took refuge in the house of Abd-el-Kader. The attitude of the Turkish authorities was indecisive, and rather injurious than useful to the Christians.

The French have sent a vessel to Latakia, on the Syrian coast, where the necessity has arisen to protect the Christian inhabitants against the fury of the Mussulmans, who there, as in many other towns of Syria, are suspected of meditating a massacre.

A Beyrout a panic prevailed. Nearly the whole of the Frank inhabitants, and as many of the native Christians as could, had taken refuge on board the English, French, and Russian men-of-war in the port. Her Majesty's steamer *Essex* had embarked the cash, books, and personnel of the Ottoman Bank, and as many of the other English residents as possible. In addition to this, parties of marines from the British, French, and Russian ships had landed to assist in maintaining order in the town.

Beyrout was very nearly being the theatre of excesses similar to those which have taken place elsewhere, but the energetic conduct of an Englishman saved the town and the population. A band of Druses and Maronites were marching on the place to the great terror of the people, when a small light-vessel was seen to enter the port. The Governor of the town, the English Consular agent, and the chiefs of the Christian communities imagined that the vessel was one of war, and they prayed the commander to take measures for saving the town; but she turned out to be only a pleasure-yacht, the *Claymore*, having on board her owner, a wealthy Englishman, Mr. Harvey. That gentleman, however, without hesitation, promised his co-operation; and immediately placed his yacht in such a position as to enable her four small pieces of cannon to bear on the streets, and he armed his crew with muskets, swords, and pistols. He afterwards landed, examined the town in order to see the points by which the Druses could enter; he then caused the women, children, and the more valuable portion of the property to be placed in safety; and had certain points occupied by his men, taking other measures of defence. All this gave confidence to the peaceable part of the population, and overawed that which was suspected of connivance with the Druses. The latter were told by their spies that an English vessel of war was in the port, that English troops had been landed; and they, in consequence, abandoned their projected attack on the town and went away.

We take the following from the "own correspondent" of the *Daily News* at Beyrout. The letter is dated July 1.—

It is now ascertained that up to last night the Druses have burnt and pillaged no less than one hundred and fifty-one Christian villages since the 20th of May last; while no less than from seventy-five to eighty thousand Christian inhabitants of Lebanon—many of whom were a month ago wealthy men, others in quite easy circumstances, and all strangers to anything like poverty or want—are homeless beggars. Over and above the number of Christians shot in actual warfare, between seven and eight thousand have been butchered—hacked to death—by the Druses in cold blood. And, besides this, more than five thousand widows, who until this Druse campaign were happy wives and mothers, have lost their husbands, brothers, fathers, and all male relatives, even to the male infants at the breast, and sixteen hundred children are now orphans. Moreover, fifty millions sterling would not pay for the towns, villages, hamlets, and silk-factories destroyed throughout the mountain—all the property of the Christians. There is, besides, a fearfully long list of convents, churches, and nunneries belonging to the same people, all of which have been plundered and then destroyed by the Druses.

To give you some idea of what these Druses are, I will enumerate a few instances of their frightful barbarity, all of which I have heard from the unfortunate sufferers themselves, now refugees from Lebanon.

One poor woman—I knew both her husband and herself well at Deir-el-Kamar, where they were wealthy people—told me that when the Druses attacked the town the second time (I should mention that it had surrendered and all the inhabitants had given up their arms some twenty-four days previously to the Druses, and had been promised protection by their sheiks) her husband was hacked to pieces before her eyes by the large knives of the Druses, who then declared they must kill all male children in the house. The mother tried to hide her two sons, one fifteen the other nine years old. The Druses, however, found them out, and she begged and prayed for their lives, and endeavoured to cover them in a corner with her person, but the Druses hacked at the lady over her shoulder, and gashed them until they both dropped down apparently lifeless. The Druses then made off, and the woman, thinking her two boys dead, remained in a sort of stupor for two hours. At last she was roused by hearing the eldest lad call her in a faint voice, trying to assure her that he was not yet dead. On this she felt the body of the youngest boy, and found his heart beating. She got some water, and after giving it to both her children—so far as she could get them to drink it—started into the town to see whether she could procure assistance to get her and her boys away. She got as far as the Seraglio or Government House, but there she found that some 500 Christians who had taken refuge were being cut to pieces by the Druses, who had been invited to enter the precincts of the building by the Turkish soldiers of the garrison, these latter helping in the butchery, and being so far worse than the Druses that they abused in the most infamous manner all the women. Seeing no help could be obtained here, the poor woman turned to fly, when she came across an old Druse who had formerly been a farm servant of her husband. After a great deal of entreaty on her part, the man consented to protect her and her children down to the seacoast, about four hours' journey, on condition of receiving an order on her brother, a wealthy man in Beyrout, for 10,000 piasters. To this she agreed, and they returned together to her house. She had not been absent more than an hour, but she found her two children cut into pieces, joint by joint, "limb and trunk severed," to use her own words, "as butchers cut up sheep." Some other poor women then joined her, and together they made their way to a mulberry plantation outside the town, where they passed the night. At daybreak they were discovered by a party of Druses, who, after stripping them to find whether they had any money on their persons, and taking away what little they possessed, told them they might go where they liked. Four of the poor creatures had babies, all under a year old. Of these infants two were girls and two boys. The former they did not touch; but the latter, they said, might grow up to be men, and bear arms against the Druses. They therefore took the poor little creatures, and before their mothers' eyes tore them up the middle and limb by limb—"exactly," to use the poor woman's own expression, "as you tear up a fowl that is to be cooked with pillow." Remember, all this was done, not in the heat of fighting, but deliberately, in cold blood. And I have heard of eleven other exactly similar cases of child destruction by the Druses, in nine of which I implicitly believe, having every reason to do so. Deir-el-Kamar contained, a month ago, a population of 8000 souls, of which about 4000 were men and lads, 3500 women and girls, and 500 children under ten years of age. Of the men not more than 150 have escaped; of the women and girls about 2000 have reached Beyrout; and of the young children less than 200 are alive.

Both England and France have agreed that, in consideration of the mission of Foad Pacha to Syria, they will for the present abstain from direct interference. In the event, however, of the Porte proving incapable of putting a stop to the conflict between the Druses and Maronites, England and France have concerted identical instructions to be given to their respective Admirals, authorising the latter to effect

a disembarkation at Beyrout should the massacres continue. Austria has also dispatched two vessels of war to Beyrout.

The following letter from Abd-el-Kader to the Birgis-Baris (Eagle of Paris) has interest at the present crisis:—

Glory to God!—I have been delighted by all that you have written in the Birgis on the subject of the Mussulman States. You have, in truth, given good advice, and you would be heard if you had spoken to the living, but it is to the dead that you have appealed. You have based your remarks on two points. You might have mentioned a third, and said that truly Mussulman Sovereigns love the conduct of honest men, and follow their footsteps in the ways of justice and contempt of worldly goods, for it is on high that little ones should look for an example. Alas! we are far enough from doing so. The present state of the Mussulman and Christian empires, everything that is taking place to-day, was predicted by Mohammed in his time, and that is what gives such authority to his prophecies. He has announced the annihilation of the Chosroes, and there are no more Chosroes; he has also said that the Christian Kings should maintain themselves in power till the end of time, and that the Sovereigns of his people should be abandoned of God by reason of their injustice and love of the world's goods; lastly, he has said that the world shall not end till the Christians have become the majority of the human race. And that event cannot fail to arrive, because, as Miam, the authorised interpreter of Mohammed, has said, they have, above all, four qualities which ensure their future success—clemency in victory, obstinacy in defeat, energy in retaliation, and charity to the poor, the weak, and the bereaved. I will add, of myself, that they join to these gifts one still greater—viz., skill in withdrawing themselves in case of necessity from the injustice and oppression of their Kings.

I weep, O my God! over the annihilation of Islamism. We are from God, and to Him we return.

At this moment dreadful disorder prevails among the Maronites and the Druses. The evil has deep roots everywhere. Butchery and murder are going on in all parts. God grant that things may have a better ending!

Greeting to God the Mighty from his poor servant,

Damascus, June 10. ABD-EL-KADER.

Later intelligence shows that Abd-el-Kader has taken the field against the Druses, with 1200 or 1500 Arabs. He is working with the European authorities. It is sincerely to be wished that the able Commissioner dispatched by the Sultan to the spot, Foad Pacha, will succeed, with his Turkish forces, in curbing those semi-savage tribes, to whom his master, the Sultan, is at least an object of respect.

LETTER FROM THE SULTAN TO THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH. The Sultan has addressed the following letter to the Emperor of the French, under date July 16:—

"I have at heart that your Majesty should know with what grief I have learnt of the events in Syria. Let your Majesty be convinced that I shall employ all my powers for establishing security and order in Syria, and that I shall severely punish the guilty parties, whoever they may be, and render justice to all. In order to leave no doubt whatever of the intentions of my Government I have intrusted that important mission to my Minister for Foreign Affairs, with whose principles your Majesty is acquainted."

THE MARONITES AND THE DRUSES.

The following account of the Maronites and Druses, whose names of late have occupied so prominent a place in the accounts from the East, is given by the *Union*:—"The Maronites, so called from the name of the ancient solitary, Maron, have belonged to the Latin Church since the twelfth century. Even before quitting heresy for the Roman Catholic faith they fraternised with the warriors of the first crusade and guided them to Jerusalem. Subsequently, according to the Catholic traditions of the Lebanon, they fought under the Christian banners during the wars of the Cross. They are a vigorous and valiant race; and before the last massacre they were about 250,000 in number. Their principal Prelate takes the title of Patriarch of Antioch. There are several Maronite families with European names—a circumstance which leads to the belief that some of the Franks in the time of the crusades must have established themselves in the Catholic district of the Lebanon. The Maronites—the French of the East by faith, reminiscences, and predilections—are much attached to the country of St. Louis; and they preserve as a glorious testimony two letters of protection—one from Louis XIV., the other from the Emperor and most Christian King Louis XV." In the Lebanon the Maronites lived in security, and that district being closed against the Turks, it was an inviolable asylum. After the battle of Navarino it became the refuge of the Consuls and Europeans who were menaced by the Mussulmans. The Franks, in former times, used to prefer as their refuge the Kesroan, the richest and most beautiful region of the Lebanon, exclusively possessed by Roman Catholics, and which, in about twelve leagues square, supports more than 100,000 inhabitants. In other parts of the Lebanon the Maronites are mixed up with the Druses."

The particulars given respecting this last-named sect are the following:—

"The Druses derive their name from Durzi, a personage of the eleventh century, one of those who preached the divinity of Haken, a Caliph, whose reign was a long and monstrous extravagance, but who is adored as a god of the Druses. This people, who are divided into sects, also worship a calf, in remembrance both of the Egyptian ox Apis and of the golden calf adored by the Jews unfaithful to the law of Jehovah. The Druses conceal the rites of their religion, and their life is a dark mystery. They hold Europeans in horror, and the greatest insult which one Druse can address to another is, 'May God put a hat on your head!' This tribe, which was powerful in the last century, was decimated fifty years ago by the celebrated Emir Bechir; it has increased its numbers during the last thirty years, but has not yet regained its former importance. The Maronites are more numerous than the Druses, and if the two were left to themselves it is not the adorners of Haken and of the calf who would gain the day; in fact, unaided, they would not accept the conflict. The frankness of an open combat is not compatible with their character; they prefer ambushes and incendiary fires. As all the Mussulman sects unite against Catholicism, the Druses easily find auxiliaries in the barbarian populations of the neighbourhood—the Metualis, the Kurds, and the Bedouins. If the Turkish authorities either openly or tacitly make common cause with them, nothing checks their course—they accumulate horrors with all the frenzy of unbridled crime. This is what they have recently done, as is proved by the frightful details which have been recently published."

FRANCE AND SAVOY.

M. de Thouvenel has addressed the following circular to the representatives of France at foreign Courts:—

Paris, June 20. Sir,—The Treaty of Turin having received its final sanction, and the cession of the territories ceded by the King of Sardinia having been accomplished, the moment has arrived for the Government of the Emperor to conform to the obligation he undertook to come to an understanding, as well with the Powers that signed the general act of Vienna as with the Helvetic Confederation, on the subject of the eventual neutralisation of a portion of the territory of Savoy. The object of such understanding, as I informed you in my communication of the 7th of April last, ought, in our opinion, to consist in putting the 92nd article of the Treaty of Vienna in accordance with the 2nd article of the Treaty of Turin. It is this accordance which it is sought to effect by a diplomatic stipulation destined to be inserted in the public law of Europe.

To attain this end various paths offer themselves to the Powers. The question may be brought before a Conference. One might also, if thought preferable, agree upon an exchange of identical notes, by which the Government of the Emperor would assume upon itself and towards the Courts guarantees of the Helvetic neutrality, and towards Switzerland itself the obligations consented to by Sardinia. Finally, one might also decide upon a preliminary negotiation between France and Switzerland, the result of which should be to determine the rights and duties resulting from the neutralisation which would take place by remodelling and completing the treaty, signed in 1816 at Turin, between Sardinia and the Helvetic Confederation. The Government of the Emperor is ready, for its part, to take the path which the other Cabinets may prefer, and which may appear to them most suitable to the circumstances. I confine myself, in case they should decide upon a Conference, to call to mind that the majority of them have recognised the propriety of holding it at Paris, and that Sardinia and Switzerland have, with a view to participate in its labours, advanced claims the justice of which is admitted by the Government of the Emperor.

You will please read this despatch to —, and leave him a copy.

THOUVENEL.

IRELAND.

DESPERATE PARTY RIOT.—The 12th of July did not pass over without a fatal breach of the peace at Lurgan, in the county of Armagh, where a fearful collision took place, in which no less than sixteen persons of the Roman Catholic party were wounded, two, it is feared, mortally. One version of the affair is as follows:—Large parties of those connected with Orange societies, or sympathising therewith, including women and children, entered Lurgan from the country districts, and were accompanied by fife and drums. There were several thousands in all, and they attended Divine service in the parish church, and afterwards separated to return to their respective homes. One of the parties, on arriving at about two miles and a half from Lurgan, was met at a place called Moyntagh, near Derryadd, by Roman Catholics, and a riot ensued. The disturbances having continued for some time, some of the Protestants returned to a house in the neighbourhood and there procured firearms, with which they returned to the spot and fired at the Roman Catholics, sixteen of whom were wounded, and two of them (Thomas Murphy and Charles McCann) are not expected to recover. The riot occurred near a Roman Catholic chapel. Ten arrests were made, some on the declaration of the dying men. An investigation was held in Lurgan on Saturday, before Lord Lurgan, J. Hancock, Esq., and W. M. Miller, Esq., R.M., when five of the prisoners were discharged, two admitted to bail, and the other three committed for further inquiry. At Enniskillen and other places flags were flaunted, processions arranged, and Orange airs rung from the church steeples.

MURDER REVEALED.—Mr. John Tennant, of Parkstown, near Thurles, looking over his fox-covers, discovered a human skeleton in a quarry. A jury was summoned, and returned this verdict, "The skeleton of a female, name unknown, has been found in a hole in a quarry, at Carrigeon, on Friday last, the 6th of July; and we find that the said female was murdered by some person or persons unknown." The jury were irresistibly forced to the above conclusion by the position in which the body had been deposited, which manifestly proved that it had been first cut into pieces, and then placed in the hole in which it was found, as on any other supposition it would have been impossible to force it into so circumscribed a space. As to the time at which it may have been placed there there can be but conjecture. The only portion of clothing discoverable about the remains consisted of part of a cotton stocking, which remained on one of the leg bones; there was also a quantity of dark brown hair attached to the skull.

THE DUNDALK PROSECUTION.—The Dundalk Ribbon prosecutions have been brought to a close. In the cases taken at the Louth Assize the jury returned a verdict of acquittal, and the Court and officers of the Crown were so satisfied with the propriety of the verdict as to abandon the proceedings against other parties believed to be implicated.

THE PROVINCES.

THE COVENTRY RIBBON TRADE.—Last week there were upwards of 10,000 weavers out of work in Coventry, consequent on the inability of the manufacturers to adhere to the "list" of prices drawn up in 1843. Since the French treaty came into operation £155,000 worth of foreign ribbons have been admitted into this country; and the masters, saying they are unable any longer to contend with the competition thus created, refuse to carry out the old agreement with their employés, and every loom in Coventry was stopped. Monster meetings of weavers have taken place daily, and delegates from Derby and Lancashire attended for the purpose of offering their advice to the turn-outs. Serious rioting even has taken place; and the whole town is in a ferment.

FORGERY BY AN HOSPITAL MANAGER.—On Friday morning Mr. Robert B. Anderson, aged fifty, a person of independent fortune, was charged at the Liverpool Police Court with forgery and embezzlements to the extent of £4000. The prisoner has for several years been connected with the Northern Hospital, as one of its directors and general manager, at a salary of £100, which, however, was considered to be nominal, he being a man of independent means. Bail was refused, and the prisoner committed for trial.

VOLUNTEER REVIEW AT LIVERPOOL.—About 5000 volunteers belonging to various Lancashire volunteer corps (chiefly Liverpool) were reviewed on Aintree racecourse on Saturday. Colonel McMurdo was the reviewing officer, and was attended by a brilliant company, of whom the Earl of Sefton (the Lord Lieutenant of the county) was one. The force went through their evolutions admirably, and the soldierlike character of their appearance was greatly heightened by the strength of the several artillery corps, which numbered in all nearly 1800 men.

ALLEGED MATRIBIDE.—An inquest has been held at Lewes relative to the death of a lady named Bull, who it was alleged had come by her death by prussic acid administered by her son, a surgeon. The accused had been in the habit of prescribing for his mother small doses of the poison in question to relieve a stomach sickness by which she was constantly afflicted. On the day of Mrs. Bull's death the accused purchased a bottle of prussic acid, and administered three minims, the general dose. During the day he drank somewhat freely. In the evening Mrs. Bull complained of a return of the sickness, and requested her son to give her some more medicine, when he went into the kitchen, and getting the bottle of prussic acid, poured some into a glass of water, and handed it to his mother. She drank it off, and died twenty minutes afterwards. The jury returned a verdict that Mrs. Bull came to her death by prussic acid incautiously administered by her son, who was committed for trial. Bail was accepted.

VOLUNTARY CONFESSION OF A MURDER.—A strange confession of a murder, alleged to have been committed at or near Malton in February last, has been made by a private, named Roberts, of the 30th Regiment, now undergoing imprisonment in Dublin for desertion. The man states that on the night of the murder he was drinking along with two others, also deserters from another regiment, in company with a cattle-dealer named Shea, with whom they afterwards proceeded on the road to York, and that they afterwards murdered and buried him in a wood on the left of the road, first robbing the body of £60 in notes. After which they went to York, and afterwards to the West Riding, where Roberts obtained work as a miner, but eventually delivered himself up as a deserter. No traces of the body have been discovered, though the police have searched for them, and nothing has been discovered of a man of the name of Shea. The Secretary of State has been communicated with with a view to removing the prisoner by habeas corpus, in order to give the opportunity of bringing him to Malton to clear up the mystery.

BRUTAL MURDER AT DARTFORD.—A man named John Grainger was charged before the Dartford magistrates with the murder of a woman named Cowell, with whom for a period of thirteen years he had been living. A short time back, however, deceased left the accused, and was afterwards met by him in company with another man. Grainger persuaded her to leave the strange man and accompany him to Dartford, and while walking together they quarrelled, and prisoner beat and kicked the woman so that next day she died. He was committed for trial for wilful murder.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE PAPER DUTIES QUESTION.—The secretary of the Manchester Constitutional Defence Association having conveyed to Mr. Gladstone the vote of thanks passed at a meeting of the general committee, that gentleman announced that he could not reply better than by adopting the sentiment and language of Lord Cranworth. Lord Cranworth's words referred to are:—"In the course of I took I was influenced by the strong conviction that the House of Lords was taking a step beyond its true constitutional limits, and I rejoice to find that my view of the case has met with approbation."

BANQUET TO CAPTAIN ALLEN YOUNG.—At Southampton, on Saturday evening last, a banquet was given to Captain Allen Young, the brave companion of Sir F. McClintock, and the officers of the *Porpoise*, previous to their departure upon the survey for the North Atlantic telegraph. Many distinguished explorers and men of science were present, as well as representatives of Denmark and the United States.

CHANGES IN THE MAGISTRACY.—Mr. Tyrwhitt, of the Clerkenwell Police Court, will succeed Mr. Bingham at Marlborough-street; Mr. D'Eyncourt, of Worship-street, will be removed to the Clerkenwell Court; and Mr. John Henry Barker has been appointed to the office of magistrate at the Worship-street Court in the room of Mr. D'Eyncourt.

THE EDINBURGH VOLUNTEERS.—Her Majesty has intimated her intention to hold a review of volunteer corps at Edinburgh on the 7th of August. The commanding officers of corps desiring to attend must intimate their wish to the Secretary of State for War, through the Lords Lieutenant of their respective counties, before the 1st of August, and they will then be admitted as far as space and numbers will permit.

THE WIMBLEDON PRIZEMEN AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

ONLY last week it was our duty to describe the scene at the Crystal Palace where the successful competitors at the great rifle-match at Wimbledon received the reward of their skill. We need not trench upon the limited space of this Journal by recapitulating the gratifying incidents of the distribution. What we could not describe was the scene itself perfectly, as the eye viewed it, or the enthusiasm which prevailed all through the proceedings. This, however, is accomplished by the illustration on the following page, sketched at the time.

THE ISLAND OF CORFU.

The approach to Corfu unfolds a scene of great picturesque beauty. The town, situate on the eastern side of the island, is surrounded by fortifications. The island itself is intersected by a chain of hills, whose undulating outline is here and there varied by lofty peaks. As far as the eye can reach the soil is clothed with luxuriant vegetation, the valleys are covered with green fields and vineyards, and the heights crowded with olive-groves. Here and there, in the distance, are discerned clusters of houses and little villages. On the sea-shore, and adjoining the harbour, is the town; many of the houses are surrounded by beautiful gardens, whence clustering rose-bushes and plantations of orange and citron trees waft delicious fragrance.

The fortifications chiefly date from the time of the Venetian Republic, which, in the year 1386, attacked and took possession of the island of Corfu, and converted the town into a strong garrison. When besieged by the Turks, in 1716, it was vigorously defended by Marshal Schulenberg, a native of Saxony, in the Venetian service. At that memorable siege the Venetians lost two thousand men, and the Turks five thousand. On the esplanade of the citadel there is a statue of Marshal Schulenberg, erected in commemoration of his valour. By a treaty signed at the Congress of Vienna the Ionian Islands were made independent Federal States, under the protection of England. In the interval between the signing of that treaty and the peace of Campo Formio, in 1797, the French had been masters of Corfu. They greatly extended the fortifications, which, nevertheless, are still capable of being improved, especially on the side next the sea where the fortress would be weak were it not covered by the batteries of the little Island of Bido.

The streets of the town are narrow and crooked, and they exhibit an anomalous combination of the various styles of building peculiar to different parts of Northern Italy. In the evening the streets in the vicinity of the harbour present a busy and animated scene; for, besides the regular shops, numbers of itinerant dealers assemble, with their stalls and baskets, selling at a cheap rate various kinds of eatables, tobacco, &c. These improvised markets are brilliantly lighted up; for the oil produced in the island is unsparingly used. It is burned in lamps of simple construction, and affords a very bright light.



PORTE REALE, CORFU.

The dress worn by the men resembles the male costume seen on the coast of Dalmatia. It consists of a jacket ornamented with braid, wide blue smallclothes drawn in under the knees, and a red cap with a blue band. The dress of the women consists of a white handkerchief on the head and another on the neck, a very

full skirt of some bright colour, and a jacket, ornamented in front with small chains, from which coins are frequently suspended. Groups of Arnauts are often seen in Corfu, whither they come to make purchases. They are robust, weather-beaten men. Their usual dress is a richly-embroidered jacket and a fusanella of some kind of coarse white cotton. Their legs are enveloped in skins; and in their girdles they carry a little arsenal of daggers, pistols, and cartridges.

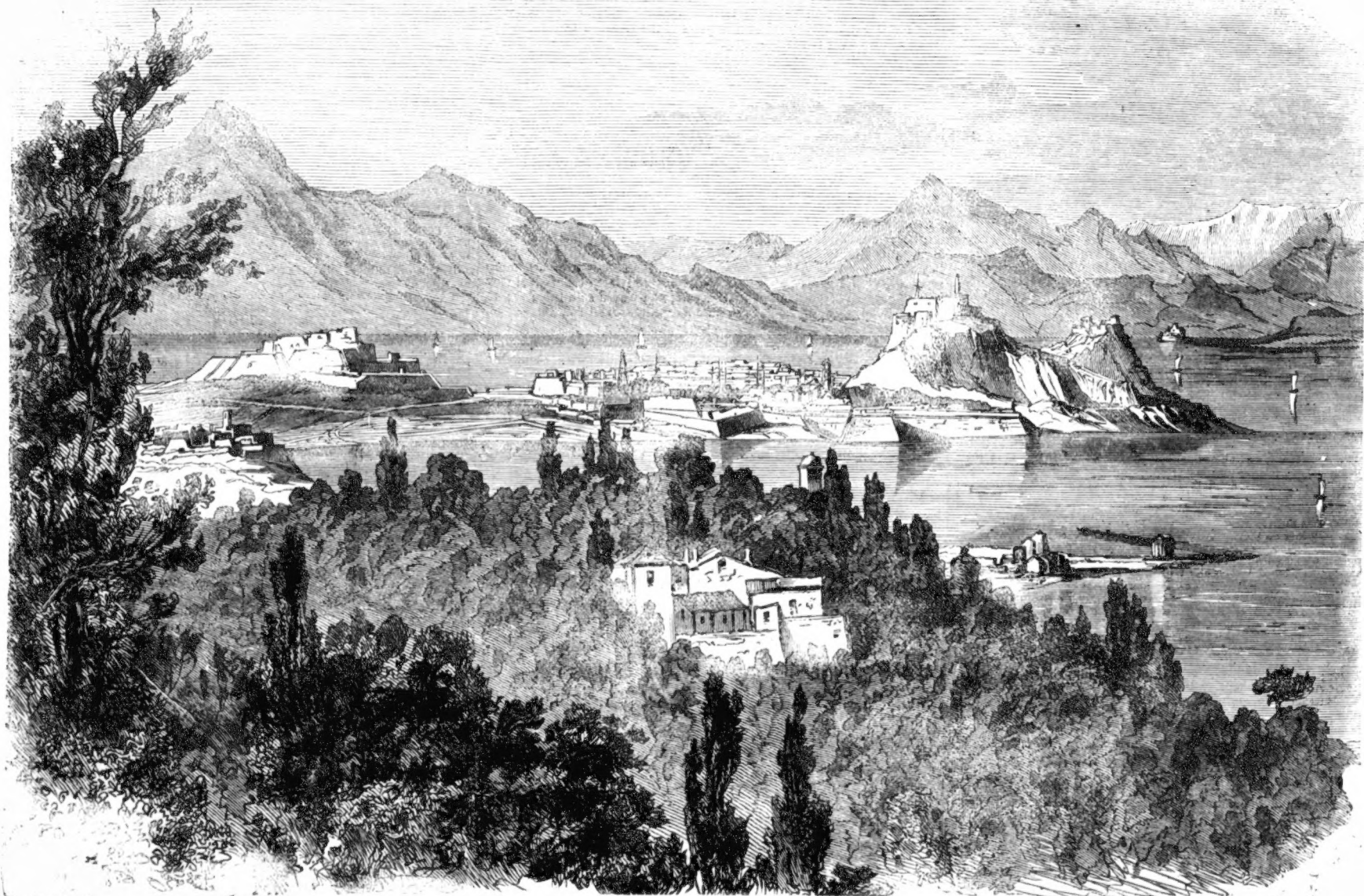
At the entrance of a small inlet of the sea called Lake Calichio-pulo there is an isolated rock, on which are built a chapel and a monastery, occupied by a few monks. This monastery is called the "Ship of Ulysses," in allusion to the Phœnician ship in which the King of Ithaca returned home after long years of absence, and which, when within sight of the destined shore, was wrecked by Neptune, who, in his rage, converted it into a rock.

In autumn Corfu is a favourite place of resort for sportsmen; for the island abounds in woodcocks and other kinds of feathered game. Lovers of the chase may also enjoy good sport here—stags and wild boars being extremely numerous in some parts of Corfu.

THE "GREAT EASTERN."

THE *New York Herald* gives a most elaborate narrative of the voyage of the *Great Eastern*, and an exceedingly minute description of the ship, her passengers, and even her crew. After discharging the pilot in the channel, the *Great Eastern* proceeded on her voyage, and before reaching the Bill of Portland numerous vessels had been passed:—

"But no notice was taken of us, if we except the case of one little schooner, which, standing across our bows, held on her course until a collision seemed inevitable. She then sheared up alongside near enough to toss a biscuit on board, and, having apparently satisfied herself of our character and proportions, luffed up and continued her voyage. By 1.30 p.m. we were abreast of Portland Light, whence we made the run to the Start in something under four hours, showing an average, under easy steam, of nearly twelve knots an hour. At 7.52 we sighted the Eddystone Lighthouse, distant five miles. The Lizard was seen at 9 p.m., and passed at 11.20, the lighthouse bearing north-north-east, distant seven miles. Towards evening the weather, which during the day had been



GENERAL VIEW OF THE ISLAND OF CORFU.

thick, with occasional showers, cleared up and became fine."

On Monday the weather was hazy, and the ship steered steadily on her way. As she rounded the Scilly Isles she began to feel the effects of the long westerly swell of the Atlantic Ocean:—

"The great ship acknowledged its power by behaving very much in the same way as another would have done under similar circumstances; that is to say, she rolled very distinctly. The motion, though similar in kind, is much less in degree and much slower than in a smaller vessel."

In the course of Monday the sails were set, and their action seemed to have a visible effect upon the progress of the ship; but as the wind freshened the motion of the vessel did not increase in anything like the same ratio.

In another account we read:—

"The behaviour of the ship, after sail was got off her, justifies the belief that the anticipations that passengers will not suffer from sea-sickness will be fully realised. Her motion during a blow is very distinct; but it is so slow and regular, as compared with an ordinary vessel, and the absence of pitching is so decided, that the most susceptible may trust themselves to make a voyage in her with the certainty that, if they do not escape altogether, they may rely on having their sufferings reduced to a minimum. Any one who has suffered much from sea-sickness will have observed that a very considerable rolling motion can be endured without inconvenience; but, as soon as a ship begins to pitch, vain, indeed, are all the efforts to stave off the dreaded malady. The length of the great ship will preclude her ever being supported by one wave at a time, and, consequently, no very great amount of pitching can be possible. The stability of vessels in a seaway increases in proportion to their size, but that of the *Great Eastern* is much more even than her large size would indicate."

A considerable gale blew on the Tuesday, but on the following day it had almost entirely subsided. On Thursday, the 21st, there were strong breezes, with heavy rain:—

"A long westerly swell caused the ship to roll more than she had done before. The motion, however, was still inconsiderable, as compared with that of an ordinary vessel, and did not in any way prevent the least habituated among the passengers from taking their usual promenade on deck. The ship herself so taxes the power of being astonished that one accepts any divergence from the usual routine of sea-life as a necessary consequence of being on board of her."

The motion of the *Great Eastern* does not appear, however, to have been such as to preclude the passengers from enjoying themselves:—

"When, in strolling about one of the large, unoccupied cargo

spaces of the lower-deck, a party of English and American athletes among the passengers were discovered to be deeply engaged in an international match at skittles, one accepted it as a matter of course, and would not have been astonished afterwards to find a billiard-table somewhere in full operation. Foot-races have been quite popular, and the usual distance run—once round the noble deck—was found quite sufficient to 'breathe' the aspirants very effectually. For those whose tastes do not take the direction of physical development the well-selected library of the ship offers a most agreeable source of distraction."

On the 23rd they had approached the banks of Newfoundland, and the utmost precautions in the way of keeping a sharp look-out were

cheered and waved their hats to the ship. The bell at the lighthouse was clanging madly in honour of the occasion, and signal-flags of every hue and colour were drooping in the sun, though still giving an air of festivity and animation, even to the arid spot over which they were expected to flutter. As the harbour opened out it could be seen covered with a perfect fleet of yachts, which now, favoured with a slight breeze, were skimming across the still water from all directions towards us, their flags waving, their crews cheering and shouting 'Welcome!' till they were hoarse again. Great ferry-boats and coasting steamers, looking, for all the world, like a street of houses floating out to sea, with their three tiers of windows and regular cotton roofs, came rolling slowly down—decks, roofs, and windows all crowded with eager heads,

taken by the vigilant commander. Monday, the 25th, was an unusually propitious day:—

"Never was a day's sailing enjoyed more than was this magnificent day by the passengers of the *Great Eastern*. Even her famous skittle-ground was deserted, simply because it was one story below the main-deck."

There was a little excitement among the crew in consequence of one of them being placed in irons:—

"He is a fierce, savage-looking man, whose days ago threatened to stab one of the officers, and to-day, for some trifling thing—we believe his dinner did not suit him exactly—he drew his knife upon one of his comrades, and became very unmanageable withal, and the felon's jewellery was of course awarded him, which he, however, broke and ran forward again in the course of the afternoon; but he was soon secured, made fast with stronger shackles, and placed in the storerooms aft, three decks down, where he will probably enjoy his solitude and his blankets, at least until we arrive at New York."

On the 26th the *Great Eastern* was enveloped in a dense fog; and during the following night "she was cautiously run down the south coast of Long Island, now and then a light turning to tell us we were in the vicinity of terra firma again; and the Sandy Hook light-ship was made at just twenty minutes past seven on the morning of Thursday, by the ship's time, New York time being made about fifteen minutes earlier. Adding four hours and fifty minutes for difference in time, the time of starting from the Needles being a quarter past ten on the morning of the 17th, we make the run to have occupied just eleven days, two hours, and five minutes."

At New York the ship received a tremendous ovation. A correspondent of the *Times* says:—

"The Spit at Sandy Hook was crowded with visitors, who stood bareheaded in the fierce sun, as they cheered and waved their hats to the ship. The bell at the lighthouse was clanging madly in honour of the occasion, and signal-flags of every hue and colour were drooping in the sun, though still giving an air of festivity and animation, even to the arid spot over which they were expected to flutter. As the harbour opened out it could be seen covered with a perfect fleet of yachts, which now, favoured with a slight breeze, were skimming across the still water from all directions towards us, their flags waving, their crews cheering and shouting 'Welcome!' till they were hoarse again. Great ferry-boats and coasting steamers, looking, for all the world, like a street of houses floating out to sea, with their three tiers of windows and regular cotton roofs, came rolling slowly down—decks, roofs, and windows all crowded with eager heads,

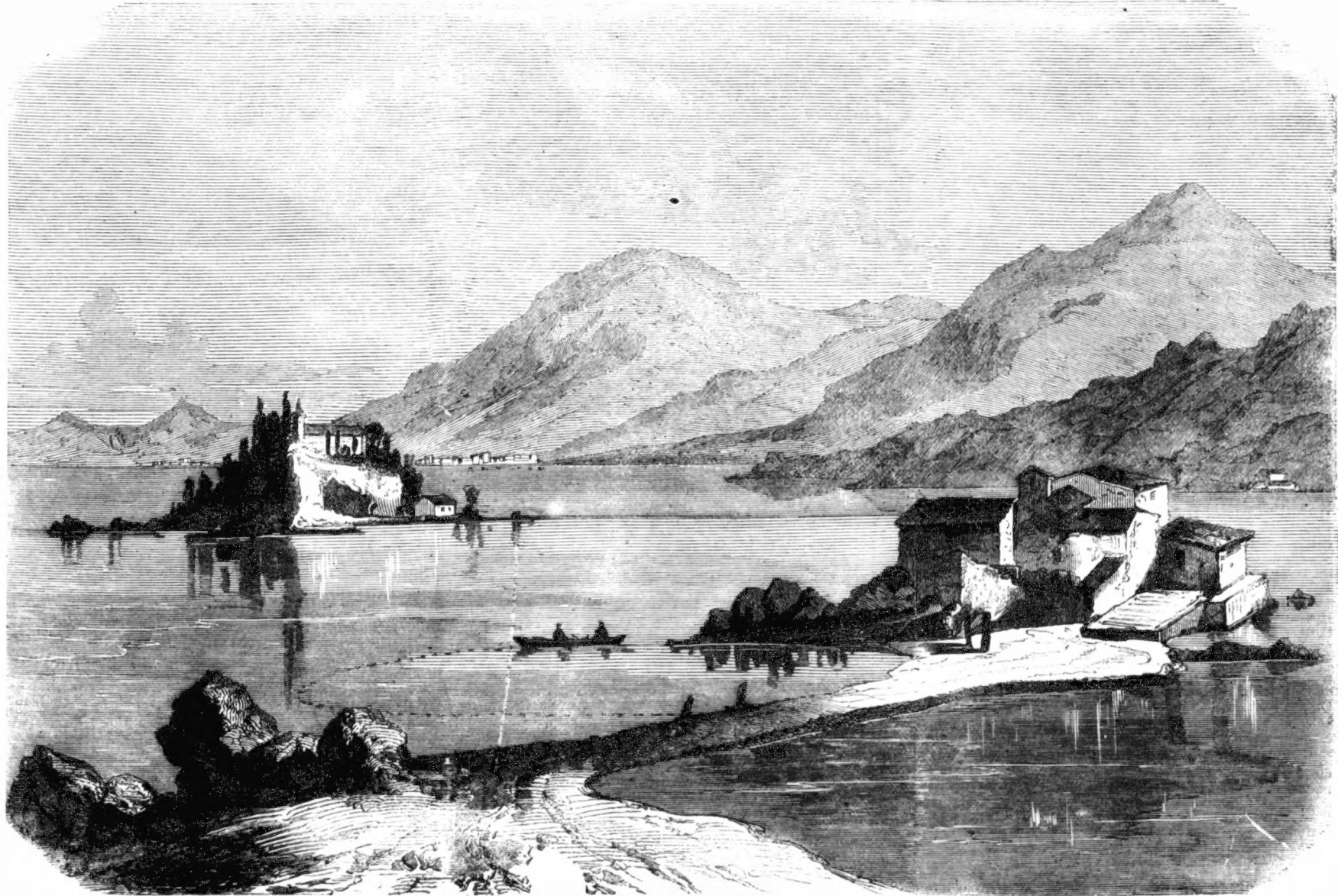


PRIEST.

PEASANTS.

FEMALE IN FESTIVAL DRESS.

CORFIOTE COSTUMES.



THE SHIP OF ULYSSES, CORFU.

the ladies waving handkerchiefs and clapping hands—the men shouting and cheering—all seeming wild with exultation and delight. Fast the shores of Staten Island, and on to the Narrows, the *Great Eastern* continued her stately way, every minute increasing the excitement, and adding scores to the number of yachts, pleasure-boats, and steamers swarming round. In vain the band of the *Great Eastern* played 'Hail, Columbia!' In vain the bands of the other steamers essayed 'Rule, Britannia!' Music was drowned and shouted down with cheers. The 'universal hat' went into the air and the 'universal handkerchief' was waved; and the Americans, always 'guessing,' guessed this time truly when they said no such ovation had ever been paid to any vessel in the world. The departure of the vessel from the Thames, the departure of the Queen from Cherbourg, even the Oxford and Cambridge boat-race (the last a wonderful specimen of aquatic excitement), give no idea of the reception of the *Great Eastern* at New York. Off Fort Hamilton the high compliment of a salute of fourteen guns was given—the first time that ever a merchant-vessel has been saluted in America.

"As New York loomed nearer and nearer the jangle of joybells could be heard from the steeples. What had seemed at a distance but a dark line along the shore grew more and more distinct, and showed at last to be dense masses of human beings shouting and waving hats as if they were possessed. Not only, too, were the shores thus lined, but even the roofs of the stores and houses far and near, the rich green hills on the opposite bank, the very masts and yards of all the vessels in the harbour, seemed literally black with countless swarms."

The ship had been opened for exhibition. Fifteen hundred persons visited her the first day, the price of admission being a dollar.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 139.

WHAT THE SUN SAW ON FRIDAY MORNING.

THE sun, as it loomed redly out of the east on Friday morning, and peered into Palace-yard, saw a very curious sight. There were there some dozen cabs ranged in a row. The drivers, with their heads sunk upon their breasts, and their hands thrust comfortably into the sleeves of their coats, were all fast asleep. The horses were quietly munching their chaff in their nosebags. Not a sound was heard in the square except the regular footfall of the policeman who paced in front of Westminster Hall. Suddenly, as the bells in the old tower of the abbey struck a quarter to four, there arose gabble and laughter, and in a moment the doors of the great hall were swung open, and out rushed some fifty or sixty members of Parliament. In an instant the cabmen were aroused, nosebags were unbuckled, shouts of "Cab!" "Cab!" were heard in every direction, and in less than five minutes there was a rattle of wheels up Parliament-street, and Palace-yard was again as silent as the grave. This was what Phœbus saw on that Friday morning. When he was at his meridian height the House of Commons had commenced its sitting. Since then he had run his daily race to the west, had been into the other hemisphere, and on his return had found the House just breaking up. Sixteen hours, less a quarter, the House had been in session. We will now proceed to show how it was that it sat so unusually late.

SAXON AGAINST CELT.

It was about two o'clock when we noticed that there was an uncommon number of members present, and we anxiously turned to the paper to ascertain what it was that was keeping them together. "There is something in the wind," we muttered to ourselves. "What can it be? The orders of the day are nearly exhausted, and the few that remain are of but little importance. Ah! here it is amongst the notices of motions. 'Mr. Cardwell to bring in a bill to continue the Peace Preservation Act (Ireland).' That this is the *casus belli* we may see by the number of Irish members clustering below the bar." And so it proved. The "Peace Preservation Act" is an old Act passed many years ago in troublesome times. It enables the Irish Government to take strong measures not allowed by the normal laws of the realm. Times have improved in Ireland since it was first passed, but still the Government deems it safe and proper that it should have the abnormal powers, though it is not often called upon to exercise them, and so from year to year the Act is "continued." The Irish Roman Catholic members object to the continuance of this Act. They say there is now no necessity for it, and that such a law is an unjust stigma upon the Irish people, and degrading, &c., &c., to Ireland; and hence their opposition. The Irish Secretary rose to move the introduction of the bill about 2.15, and then the battle commenced.

SUCCESSIVE ADJOURNMENT DODGE.

The policy of the Opposition members was, not to defeat the bill in close fight, for with that formidable body of members on the Government benches and behind they could not hope to do this, but to postpone it, at least for that night, by successive motions of adjournment, and Mr. Maguire led the van by rising promptly to move that "the House do now adjourn." And after a short skirmish of talk the House divided, when for the adjournment there were some sixteen members, and against it some fifty; the motion, therefore, was lost. But the victory was not won by the other side. All that the House had done was to decide that the House do not now adjourn, and, as this word *now* only referred to the instant at which the motion was made, of course it was competent for any member to go on repeating the motion until, wearied out, the Government should give way and consent to the adjournment; and this is what generally occurs. Indeed, it is very uncommon for a minority to be defeated in such a fight as this; but on this occasion Lord Palmerston was present. He had been in the House more than ten hours, but he was as fresh apparently at this late hour as he was at the beginning of the evening, and, knowing that the bill must be passed—that whenever it came on it would be opposed—he had made up his mind then and there to press it over its first stage. This he quietly made known to the Opposition, and calmly but resolutely defied them to a trial of strength. Some of his supporters dropped away to bed, but only a few, not more than half a dozen at most. Who, indeed, but a craven could have deserted his chief in such a fight? There was no great deal of talking on the occasion, and what there was was all on the side of the Opposition. Maguire perorated in his elegant way upon the insult, the degradation, &c., &c., involved in this bill. An able man is Maguire, and eloquent too—perhaps, on the whole, one of the best of the Irish speakers. Vincent Scully chattered with his usual volubility. Hennessy also protested and protested. Not a bad speaker is Mr. Hennessy. But on the other side there was very little talk. "Old Pam" now and then just offered a little calm advice; and once Mr. Cardwell, the Irish Secretary, rose, and in a few words promised ample opportunities to discuss the bill in its future stages; but the policy of the Opposition was not to talk but quietly to resist by a sort of calm, resolute, obstinate *vis inertiae*. "Fire away, lads, if you please!" they seemed to say. "Go on until six o'clock, if you like, or even till the House shall meet again at twelve, but we really must and will introduce the bill." Well, thus matters stood at a quarter-past three. The morning light was just appearing through the eastern windows, the Speaker looked jaded and vexed, the reporters were gone, excepting two who were obliged to remain, not, however, to report the speeches, but only to note the result; and in the gallery there were only two strangers; but still there were no signs of the end of the fight. The Irish seemed to be resolute as ever, and Palmerston we knew was firm.

SAXON VICTORIOUS.

The end, however, was near; for at half-past four, when another division took place, and the Opposition discovered that their numbers had fallen to seven, they faltered, laid their heads together, and consulted; and when the noble Lord, in his jolly way, rose and advised "the seven true men to go to bed," they suddenly consented to take his advice, allowed the bill to be brought in without further contest, and decamped, amidst the cheers and laughter of their opponents. The conduct of the fight by the noble Lord throughout this contest was beyond all praise. His patience, his tact, his pluck, his invincible good humour, his calm reticence under provocation, considering how old he is, and how long he has been in the House, were remarkable. No one but he, we are persuaded, could have met so successfully and defeated this cabal.

SPEAKER'S LAPSPUS.

We may here note that at least twenty minutes were added to this fight by the irresolution of Mr. Speaker. The case was this:—About a quarter past three o'clock Mr. Speaker put the question that "Leave be given to bring in a bill," &c., and the voices were given both *ay* and *no*, when Mr. Sullivan was allowed to address the House. Now, it is clearly laid down by Mr. May, in his "Practice of Parliament," that a member is entitled to be heard after the voice has been given in the affirmative, but not after it has been given in the negative. It is true that on one occasion (January 27, 1789) a member was permitted to address the House even after the Speaker had declared that the question had been *resolved* in the affirmative; but this was on the plea that, though he did not catch the eye of the Speaker, the said member had arisen *before the question was put*. But Mr. Sullivan did not rise until the question had been put, and, therefore, had clearly no right to speak. Lord Palmerston called the attention of Mr. Speaker to this breach of order; but he overruled the objection, and the debate was allowed to go on. The noble Lord must have been annoyed at this lapsus. It is bad enough for a Minister of the Crown to have to fight a cabal like this at three o'clock in the morning, but that the rules of the House should be relaxed in favour of this cabal is too bad.

PEDDLING.

A good many fine things have been said about the power of Parliament. Sir Edward Coke laid it down that the power of Parliament "is so transcendent and absolute that it cannot be confined either for causes, or persons within bounds;" and another writer has figuratively likened the House of Commons to an elephant "which can tear up an oak and pick up a pin with that flexible trunk of his." And all this is very well, no doubt, but it surely is questionable whether it ought to use all its power; and, if it be true that it is good to have a giant's power, but not always to use it like a giant, it cannot be right that the giant should use his power in peddling about small concerns, especially, when those concerns might be dealt with more efficiently elsewhere. Lately the House of Commons has indulged a good deal in peddling. For example. Some weeks back a woman named Cater was "removed" from St. Pancras parish to Ireland by mistake. That it was a mistake there can be no doubt, and that it was a grievance to Mrs. Cater is equally unquestionable. But was it a question to bring before the House of Commons, and debate upon for a couple of hours there, at this time of the Session, when great national questions are before it, and Imperial business is all in arrear? We venture to think not. The Poor Law Board is the department to which such a question should be referred. But what shall we say to the question which Mr. Brady has put upon the paper? Here it is abridged; let our readers read it:—"Whether 2s. 6d. is charged in the Dublin Cowpock Institution for two points of vaccine lymph?" &c., &c.; or to that which Mr. Maguire introduced on Friday last with a speech, to wit, whether the Chief Secretary for Ireland had heard that the stained glass window of the Roman Catholic chapel at Cookstown, county of Tyrone, was maliciously broken on Sunday morning, 1st of July, and what practical steps had been taken to maintain the peace, and preserve the property and persons of the Catholics from outrage," &c., &c. Now, with respect to the window, it turned out after half an hour's talk that some drunken ruffians had broken it with a stick. The great lymph question has not been put yet, and we venture to suggest that it should not be put. Let the honourable member for Leitrim write to the superintendent of the Dublin Hospital; it will only cost him a penny; and, if the window of Cookstown or any other cathedral should be broken again, Mr. Maguire should apply to the chief of the district constabulary, and not pester the High Court of Parliament, and stop the public business by provoking debate upon such a paltry question. The Parliamentary elephant can pick up pins, no doubt; but we venture to think that his curious organisation was given him for quite other than such peddling work.

WHO IS THE CONSERVATIVE LEADER?

There is some doubt upon this subject. That Mr. Disraeli has not formally resigned is certain, but that his position has been altered of late is evident; perhaps, in official phrase, "he only holds the seals until his successor shall be appointed." However that may be, it is clear that he does not rule over the Conservative party as he used to do. It may be that no determination has been come to formally to depose him; but it needs no ghost to tell us that the allegiance of many of the Conservatives has been withdrawn, and that in many other instances it falters. And that Mr. Disraeli feels this we cannot doubt. He was not at the Conservative gathering at Willis's Rooms. He was in the House that night, though there was nothing specially important to hold him there. Indeed, he was not in his place long together, but wandered moodily about—now in the lobby, now in the refreshment-room; and, further, it is noticeable that he rarely speaks now. Several times he has walked out of the House on the eve of a division; and, as a rule, he goes home much earlier than he used to do. All this proves that the ties between him and his party, if not broken, are stretched almost to cracking. The alienation began last year, when he was in office. It was when Newdegate and Spooner and others of the deeper Protestant hue openly left him—when Henley and Walpole seceded from his Government—that the mischief began; and it has been observably going on ever since. The severe article in the *Quarterly* did not create the mischief—it only showed that it existed; though it must have mortified and wounded him severely, and more especially when he considered whence it came. If an enemy had done it he could have borne it; but that the son of an old colleague in the Government—a young nobleman whom he had so often flattered—should have charged him with leading the party into a ditch, must have been intolerable to a proud spirit like his. Well, the question returns—"Who is to be the Conservative leader?" Is it Sir John Pakington? Circumstances seem to favour this notion at times. The honourable Baronet is generally in his place; often rises when it would seem to be more proper for Disraeli to rise; and speaks as if he were representing his party. But, on the other hand, if you talk to the Conservatives upon this subject you generally get, by way of reply, a significant shrug of the shoulders and shake of the head, as much as to say, "It won't do." Lord John Manners has been mentioned; but nothing but ignorance of the parties in the House could have led to the suggestion that Lord John will ever be received as a leader. He is too proud, and, moreover, is more than suspected of holding High Church principles—"Popish tendencies," as Mr. Newdegate would say—which no small number of the Conservatives abhor. Mr. Henley would make a good leader in some respects. He is a very able debater in small matters, and can pull a bill or resolution to pieces better than any man in the House; but, in the first place, he is too old, and, secondly, he is nothing in a great party fight. He is unlike the elephant, for, though he can pick up pins, he cannot tear up an oak. He has microscopic eyes and dexterous fingers, but no strength. Mr. Walpole is altogether too good and amiable, even if he had the requisite oratorical power, for the post. Bentinck's name has been suggested; but this is a joke. Who, then, is it to be? Echo answers, "Who?" There is no one. There are three hundred Conservative gentlemen, but not one man fit to be their leader. No man in all that mass with the requisite ability, eloquence, and tact. And we believe that Disraeli knows this; and it is not impossible that he means to show them that he knows this, proudly feels that he is a necessity, and, by leaving them to themselves for a time, means to make them feel it too.

BUDGET NO. II.

On Monday night the House was full at an early hour. The cause of this early gathering was that Gladstone was to give his extraordinary financial statement—a second Budget, in fact—and show how he meant to raise the "ways and means" for the China war; and, further, it had been reported all day that we were to have another twopence or so added to the income tax, and that possibly the Government would be beaten. Hence the anxiety to hear the Chancellor. The right hon. gentleman marched into the House at about half-past four. He looked pale and not by any means well. Nor is he well; but still that bronchial affection teases him, and it was only the other day that he was in bed until the time came for him to leave home for the House. The right

hon. gentleman, however, got through his work well. There was again the same tact, the same eloquence, and the same transparent clearness of statement. As he approached "the ways and means" there was profound stillness in the House; every head was stretched forward, and every eye was fixed upon the Chancellor; and was it imagination only that made us fancy that, whilst an evident feeling of relief was manifested on the Liberal side when it was discovered by what simple means the money was to be raised, something like disappointment was shown by the Opposition? "We are to have no row, then," said one of the young Conservatives. "I thought we were to have a row."

WHITE REDIVIVUS.

Mr. White, the late member for Plymouth, is back again. Who does not remember Mr. White, the giant of the House, with the tall, massive form, black beard, and those deep bass tones of his with which he cheered? An Irish member used to call that hoarse cheers of his, which was more like the hoarse noise of the tide upon a shingle beach than any thing else, "the Plymouth sound."

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 13.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

GALWAY HARBOUR.

The Galway Harbour Bill, after a considerable discussion, was read a third time. Several other bills were forwarded a stage, after which their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

SWITZERLAND AND SAVOY.

On the motion for the adjournment to Monday, Mr. A. KINGLAKE asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether all the eight Powers, as well as Switzerland and Sardinia, have consented to take part in the proposed conference on the subject of the 92nd article of the definitive act of Vienna? and whether there was any preliminary understanding between the Powers as to the basis on which the conference would take place?

Sir R. PEEL hoped that it would be understood that it was Switzerland, and not France, which first asked for a conference.

Mr. B. OSBORNE, referring to a statement of Mr. Kinglake on the previous evening that at Villafranca the Emperor of the French offered to ensure Lombardy to the Emperor of Austria if the latter would assist him to acquire the Rhenish provinces, asked Lord J. Russell if he was aware of that circumstance?

Lord J. RUSSELL said that the conference was one of those alternatives offered by the French Government. This was accepted by the British Government; but he had no formal or official knowledge of its acceptance by other Powers, though they all said if a conference were summoned they were ready to send representatives to it. The only basis of the conference was the reconciliation of the 92nd article of the Treaty of Vienna with that of Turin, which seemed to him to offer the widest basis for proposition. There had been no attempt on the part of France to bind the other Powers in any way. What happened at Villafranca could only be known to the two Sovereigns, who alone were present, and he had received no account that any such suggestion as that alluded to by Mr. Osborne had been made. He had heard vague rumours of such a thing, but there was no authority for it.

IRISH VOLUNTEERS.

Mr. BRADY drew attention to the question of the enrolment of volunteers in Ireland, urging the defenceless condition of that country, and that the people should be allowed to arm to protect themselves.

Lord PALMERSTON said that the Government were not prepared to alter the law which prevented the establishment of such corps, but it was not intended as any impeachment of the loyalty or good feeling of Ireland; but it arose from a number of minor circumstances, which rendered such a course inconvenient.

THE PAPER DUTY.

Mr. WHALLEY called the attention of the House to the excise duty on paper, and, in reference thereto, asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether it was his intention to enforce the payment of that duty? He suggested that the duty should not be levied.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in answer to Mr. Whalley on the subject of the excise duty on paper, said, in effect, that there was no alternative but to collect it.

THE GALWAY PACKET CONTRACT.

A number of other questions were brought forward and discussed—among others that of the Galway packet contract, and Mr. Laing explained the circumstances in which it was placed with regard to the transfer of the Government subsidy to a Canadian company, to which the Government had not acceded, but which was still in abeyance. The adjournment to Monday was agreed to.

THE VOTE FOR THE CHINESE WAR.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply on the vote for China, Mr. COCHRANE moved "That, in order to remove one great obstacle to peace with China, the British Plenipotentiary be instructed not to insist on the third article of the Treaty of Tien-Tsin, by which his Majesty the Emperor of China agrees that the Ambassador, Minister, or other diplomatic agent appointed by her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain may reside, with his family and establishment, permanently at the capital, or may visit it occasionally, at the option of the British Government."

Lord J. RUSSELL said that the motion was made in an unusual form, and was disrespectful to the Crown, by whom Lord Elgin had been appointed, as if it was carried it would imply that the Speaker had sent out instructions to our Plenipotentiary from the House in contradiction to those which had been given him by her Majesty. As to the residence of our Ambassador at Peking being a degradation to the Chinese, the fact was that a Russian Minister had been received, and had resided there for some months. The objection to a British Ambassador was therefore at an end. This clause in the treaty had been agreed to by the Ministers and sanctioned by the Emperor of China himself.

The motion was negatived. The House then went into Committee of Supply on the vote of credit for China, and the grant of the remaining £400,000 was agreed to.

After some discussion, in the course of which Mr. ROEBUCK taunted Mr. Gladstone with his change of opinion with regard to war with China since his powerful opposition to such hostilities in 1857,

the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said the explanation of his change of opinion was easy, inasmuch as it had been caused by the fact that the circumstances of the present war were totally different from those of the former one, and because he believed that the Government was only following its duty in carrying out a war which the occurrences at the Peiho had made a necessity.

Lord J. RUSSELL and Lord PALMERSTON, in reference to inquiries as to what was the object and the origin of the war, stated that it arose out of the affair of the Peiho, for which the late Government was responsible, and they urged the necessity of asserting the dignity and power of this country, especially looking to the interests and protection of our trading countrymen in China, and for which purpose it was sought to obtain the ratification of the treaty of Tien-Tsin.

The Committee of Ways and Means was postponed until Monday.

Other business having been disposed of, the House adjourned.

MONDAY, JULY 16.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

SAVOY AND THE ALLIANCE.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE, in moving for a copy of a letter addressed by the Foreign Office to the Duke of Wellington, in 1815, relating to the military frontier of Savoy, brought forward the subject of the annexation of the neutralised provinces of Savoy to France, which he strongly condemned. He expressed a high sense of the importance of the French alliance to this country, and of the propriety of maintaining it, although he could not allow that its maintenance was to be preserved by allowing the international law of Europe to be violated; and concluded by impressing upon the Government the propriety of England speaking candidly and frankly to France upon the necessity of allaying, by assurances of peace to England as well as Germany, the restlessness of the public mind in Europe—a restlessness which placed this country in a position of suspended hostilities.

Lord WODEHOUSE, in agreeing to the motion, said that, as Switzerland had asked for a conference, the British Government could not but consent to send a representative to it.

The Marquis of NORMANBY agreed with Lord Clanricarde that the conference could be of no avail.

Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE, after complimenting Switzerland on the attitude which she had assumed in this matter, urged that a general good understanding between France and England was preferable to an intimate alliance. He also believed that the proposed conference would, so far from settling the question involved, only lead to new complications in Europe.

Lord Brougham expressed his approval of going to the conference, as the main conduct of the Swiss had attracted to them the sympathies of Europe. He did not believe that France had gained, either territorially or strategically, by the annexation of Savoy and Nice, as much as she had lost in the opinion of Europe by that proceeding. He could not agree with Lord Stratford de Redcliffe's opinion on the French alliance. He (Lord Brougham) thought it was of the greatest importance to the interests of the two countries and the surest guarantee for the peace of the world.

The motion was agreed to.

ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

On the motion of the Earl of Chichester the Ecclesiastical Commission Bill, which stood for Committee, was rejected.

The other orders were gone through, and the House adjourned at a quarter to eight.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE CHINA WAR.

On the report of supply for the vote of credit for the China war, Mr. ROXBURGH took the opportunity of protesting against this war, on the ground of its injustice, believing as he did that the opinions of the House and of the people were with him on the subject of the war, which began originally on a question of forcing opium into China.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, admitting that the question should have the fullest discussion, and also the principle that in dealing with Asiatic nations we should be influenced by the strictest justice, argued that the treaty, which was a contract completed, ought to have been observed and ratified in the capital of China; and the non-ratification of the treaty was the primal cause of the war in which we were unhappily engaged.

BUSINESS OF THE SESSION.

Mr. NEWDEGATE moved a resolution to the effect that, during the remainder of the Session, opposed notices and orders should not be proceeded with upon which debate should arise after one o'clock in the morning.

Sir G. GREY said the subject was, no doubt, of considerable importance, and, looking to the late hours to which the sittings of the House were protracted, he was not surprised at the motion, for the sake not only of members, but of the officers of the House. The proposed rule, however, would lead to great public inconvenience if an obstinate minority, or even a single member, chose to take advantage of it.

After a short debate the motion was withdrawn.

WAYS AND MEANS.

In Committee of Ways and Means, The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved resolutions for making provision for the vote for China. He said that in February £850,000 was charged on the finances of the past year, and a sum of about double that amount on the finances of this year—making £2,500,000 for the expedition to China, and before it was known that warlike operations would be necessary. The sum actually required was still £2,250,000, although the vote in supply was unusually large, as that vote included £500,000 which had previously been taken and £400,000 which had been expended on the former war. The whole sum required for the China war was £5,400,000. The whole expense of the first China war was only £3,500,000, to which a sum borne by the East India Company was to be added—making the cost £1,500,000; so that the difference between that and the estimate for the present was only £1,200,000. The whole of the £850,000 which had already been expended had been paid out of the ordinary revenue of last year, of which there was a surplus of £1,600,000; but a portion of that was applied to the reduction of the debt of the country. It was not now proposed to charge the ordinary revenue with more than £500,000 of the charge for the China expedition. The question was how the remaining portion of the charge of £3,300,000 was to be met? There was no reason to doubt the estimated revenue of the year as made in February, but it would be unsafe to calculate on its exact fulfilment. The surplus of £464,000 which had been estimated in February was not altogether disposed of. But the calculation of the expense of the collection of the revenue was erroneous by £200,000, and the charges on smaller items had been reduced by a sum which left the real surplus £64,000 instead of £464,000; but circumstances connected with the keeping on of the paper duty till the 1st of August had increased the surplus to £260,000. To this might now be added the sum which the rejection of the Paper Duty Bill had caused to be payable, which would amount to about £700,000, which would be available. The three sums of £500,000, £250,000, and £700,000, would provide £1,450,000 for the China vote. For the sum of £2,300,000, still required, it was proposed to raise it in part by taxation, and in part by other resources. It was proposed to raise £1,050,000 by an increase of the duty on ardent spirits; that is, to make a permanent additional charge of 1s. 11d. a gallon on all spirits, whether under the customs or excise; the duty to be then 10s. a gallon on British, 10s. 2d. on colonial, and 10s. 5d. on foreign spirits. It was proposed to provide the remaining £1,250,000 of the £2,300,000 from the balances in the Exchequer, which on the 30th of June were £6,924,000, and they would be better at the end of September. With regard to the vote for fortifications, a statement would be made with regard to that before the final decision of the House on the vote now proposed; and he would add that it was not intended to make any further addition to the taxation of the country in the present financial year.

A conversational discussion followed, in the course of which Lord FERMOY complained of the Chancellor of the Exchequer availing himself of the paper duty granted him by the Lords, which presented a difficulty in the way of settling the question of privilege between the two Houses.

The resolutions were then agreed to, as were resolutions imposing an excise on all persons dealing in foreign wines and spirits in bond, reducing the period of the malt-duty credit, changing the time of payment of the hop duty, imposing a duty of 3s. a cwt. on home-grown chicory until March, 1861, and 6s. afterwards; imposing stamp duties on contract notes, assignment of leases exceeding terms of thirty-five years, on accidental death insurances, and on foreign promissory notes.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

The House next went into Committee on the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill, progress being resumed at clause 128.

The greater part of the sitting was occupied with the consideration of the clauses, the principal discussion taking place on section 132, which abolishes the distinction between bankruptcy and insolvency, and puts traders and non-traders in the same position in reference to the administration of their estates and their discharge from their debts. Progress was reported before the close of the debate, and the clause still remains to be considered.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, JULY 17.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

"COLOURED PERSONS."

In answer to Lord Brougham, Earl GRANVILLE said it was not in the power of the Government to interfere in the case in which a certain coloured person had been placed in a cabin apart from the other passengers in one of the Cunard steamers from the United States.

Lord BROUGHAM said that in a similar case an action had been brought and damages recovered against the captain of a vessel.

THE ANNUITY TAX.

The Annuity Tax (Edinburgh) Abolition Bill was read a second time, the Earl of DUNDEE strongly recommending the House to accept it as an honest attempt at a settlement of the question.

THE LAW OF MARRIAGE IN SCOTLAND.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, in calling the attention of the House to the law of marriage in Scotland, laid on the table a bill to assimilate the marriages of that country to those of England, and especially in rendering decrees of divorce in the Scotch courts binding in England.

THE SERIAN MASSACRES.

In answer to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, Lord WODENHOUSE said that the accounts which had appeared in the papers of a massacre at Damascus were true. No less than 500 persons had been slaughtered, the Dutch Consul was killed, the American Consul wounded, and all the consulates, except the British, had been burnt.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

EDUCATION FOR FACTORY CHILDREN.

On the motion for the second reading of the Education Bill, the object of which was to provide that children under twelve years of age should not be employed in continuous labour unless they were able to read and write, or unless an undertaking was given that they would be educated for at least twenty hours in the week,

Mr. FRANK moved the rejection of the bill, which was supported by Sir G. C. LEWIS and Mr. GLADSTONE; and after a lengthy discussion on a division it was lost by 122 to 51.

THE SPIRITS BILL.—GAME LICENSES.

The order for the third reading of the Spirits Bill was discharged, on the motion of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, and the bill recommitted, in order to strike out the clauses which related to the amount of duties, for the purpose of embodying the resolutions increasing the duty on spirits in the bill.

In Committee on the Sale of Game Acts, a resolution was moved to impose a license of £2 on the sale of game in Scotland, as is the case in England.

Mr. BUTT moved an address to the Crown, representing that the House had learned with regret that many of her Majesty's subjects in Ireland

were prevented by conscientious objections from availing themselves of the benefit of the funds voted by the House for the promotion of national education in Ireland, and praying that inquiries may be made whether such changes might not be made in the rules under which that grant is distributed as would enable all classes in Ireland to enjoy the advantages which that grant is intended to secure to the Irish people. He argued that, as a free and combined system of Protestant and Roman Catholic education, the system had proved a failure.

Mr. WHITEHEAD cordially supported the motion, urging that to a large section of the Church of Ireland it was a matter of conscience not to avail themselves of the grants for education, owing to the exclusion of the Scriptures from the teaching in the schools and their contention for the teaching of religion in them. He contended, also, that every rule of the system was daily violated.

Mr. CARDWELL said that this House, thirty years ago, withdrew its support from the then system of education in Ireland on account of its utter failure. During the last thirty years there had grown up the present system, which, by the universal testimony of fact and opinion, had conferred countless blessings on Ireland. He then proceeded, with some detail, to trace the history of the system, showing how great had been the increase in the schools and the number of scholars; and, so far from there having been a falling off on the part of scholars from the Established Church, there had been an increase of 36 per cent in their numbers. He argued against particular systems, whereas, by the adoption of a single system, a tendency was created towards more complete amalgamation of feeling and interests among the whole people in after life.

Mr. HENNESSY moved the adjournment of the debate (at a quarter to eleven).

The motion was opposed by Mr. B. Osborne and Lord Palmerston, and, on a division, it was rejected by 177 to 66.

Mr. HENNESSY then resumed the debate, and supported the motion. A division was then taken on the original motion, which was negatived by 196 to 62.

THE PAPER DUTIES BILL.

Lord FERMOY moved that the rejection by the House of Lords of the Bill for the Repeal of the Paper Duties is an encroachment on the rights and privileges of the House of Commons, and it is therefore incumbent upon the House to adopt a practical measure for the vindication of its rights and privileges.

Lord PALMERSTON urged that it was not desirable, after the resolution which had been come to, again to stir up this important action. The first part of the motion went no further than the resolutions already passed, while, as to the latter part, it did not propose any definite plan; but the noble Lord threw the responsibility on the Government of deciding the course to be pursued, which he must decline. He moved the previous question.

Sir J. TRELAUNY, in supporting the motion, complained of every one, himself included, for not having taken a more decided course on this question, and declared that he would rather that the French occupied Yorkshire at this moment than that the precedent should have been made.

Mr. CLAY objected to the motion as weak and impotent for its object; and, though his opinion with regard to the insult offered the House by the Lords was as strong as that of any one, he yet believed that the people out of doors did not heartily support that House, but agreed in the financial sagacity of the House of Lords. The motion was in every sense mischievous, and would result in recording the opinion of a large majority of the House practically in favour of the aggression of the Lords.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER concurred in the course taken by Lord Palmerston, and also in the opinion that had been expressed of the inopportune and indefiniteness of the motion. In any course he had taken in reference to recent financial measures, and in using the sum available from the paper duty, he had done nothing to prejudice the larger question of privilege.

Mr. B. OSBORNE, while objecting to the situation in which he, who was opposed to the repeal of the paper duty, had been placed by the course taken by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was wholly opposed to the present resolution.

After some remarks from Mr. Coningham, Mr. DISRAELI made some sarcastic remarks on the state of the Liberal party as suggested by Mr. Clay, and proceeded to say that the speech of Mr. Gladstone had convinced him that the motion should be directly opposed, and met by a negative instead of by the previous question.

Sir G. GREY defended the course taken by the Government.

Mr. BOUVIER moved the adjournment of the debate, but that motion was negatived.

On a division the previous question was carried by 177 to 138.

Lord FERMOY's motion was consequently lost.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CORONERS' FEES.

Mr. CORBETT, with some prelatory observations, showing the necessity of legislation upon the subject, moved the second reading of the Coroners (No. 3) Bill, the principle of which had been recommended by the Commission of 1859 and the Committee of the present year.

Mr. DEBES supported the second reading of the bill in order that the question between the coroners and the magistrates might be settled.

Sir G. LEWIS observed that it was generally felt that some remedy was required, and, although he had been of opinion that the coroners should continue to be paid by fees, if the House desired to try the experiment of paying them by salary he would not oppose the proposition. The coroner was elected by the freeholders, and held his office by a stronger tenure than the Judges, being practically immovable, and he suggested that the Crown should be empowered to remove a coroner in case of incapacity or neglect. He doubted whether the mode of electing such an officer was an expedient one, and thought the nomination might be given to the Lord Lieutenant of the county. He was prepared to vote for the second reading of the bill.

The discussion which followed related to details, and the bill was read a second time and committed pro forma.

METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS.

The adjourned debate on going into Committee upon Sir J. Shelley's Metropolitan Local Management Act Amendment (No. 2) Bill was then resumed.

The amendment, which had been moved by Mr. T. Miller, to defer the Committee for three months, was supported by Mr. Standland and Sir F. Goldsmid; the bill being defended by Mr. James, Mr. W. Williams, and Mr. John Locke.

Sir G. LEWIS explained the reasons why, in his opinion, there should be some control over the action of the Metropolitan Board of Works; and, although the powers proposed to be given by the bill were very extensive, he did not object to go into Committee to consider its provisions.

After further discussion, the House divided upon Mr. Miller's amendment, which was negatived by 78 to 68, and the House went into Committee on the bill, the clauses of which underwent amendment.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

The Lords' amendments of the Adulteration of Food and Drink Bill were agreed to.

LAND TENURE.

Further amendments on the report of the Tenure and Improvement of Land (Ireland) Bill were taken into consideration, and occupied the House during the remainder of the time allotted to debate.

NEW STAMP DUTY.

In the Committee of Ways and Means, on the motion of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, a resolution was agreed to imposing a stamp duty on promissory notes.

The other orders were disposed of without discussion, and the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, JULY 19.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Labourers' Cottages (Scotland), Colewort Barracks (Portsmouth), and Annuity Tax Abolition (Edinburgh and Montrose), &c., Bills passed through Committee.

The following bills were read a second time—viz., Tramways (Ireland), Lands Clauses Consolidation Act (1845) Amendment, Registration of Births, &c. (Scotland), Court of Queen's Bench Act Amendment, Census (England), Census (Ireland), and Inclosure (No. 2) Bills.

The Criminal Lunatic Asylum and Leith Harbour and Docks Bills were read a third time and passed.

THE CONDUCT OF BUSINESS.

The Earl of DUNDEE drew attention to the mode in which the business of the House was conducted, and said that, though the subject involved a number of dry details, it was, nevertheless, of great importance to the country. He remarked that, after six months' sitting, only thirty-four Acts of Parliament had received the Royal assent, whilst thirteen were waiting for that stage. After commenting upon the mode in which the business had been conducted in the other House, the noble Lord concluded by moving for a Select Committee to inquire into the subject.

Earl GRANVILLE admitted the evil complained of, but the difficulty was how to remedy it. He thought that a joint Committee of both Houses would be the better one to consider the matter, but it was too late that Session to arrange one, especially on account of the recent proceedings of their Lordships.

After some further discussion the motion was withdrawn.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The morning sitting was wholly occupied by the consideration of the clauses of the Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY BILL.

On the House going into Committee upon this bill, The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that, finding it impossible to proceed with this bill in the hope of being able to send it up to the House of Lords in such time as would afford an opportunity for its due deliberation, he was reluctantly obliged to withdraw it, hoping to be able to reintroduce it early next Session, and to have it then passed through Parliament.

Sir H. CAIRNS, whilst anxiously desiring the enactment of such a measure, saw no other course open to the hon. and learned gentleman under the peculiar circumstances of the case. He suggested that much advantage would be gained if the Attorney-General would confine himself simply to altering and amending the bankruptcy laws, instead of attempting at the same time to consolidate those laws—a step which might follow as a matter of detail. He regretted, however, that this resolution of the Government had not been announced sooner.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that it had only been arrived at at two o'clock that day.

Mr. MALINS and Mr. HADFIELD severally expressed the opinion that the hon. and learned gentleman had exercised a wise discretion in the course he had taken.

Sir J. PARKINGTON said that, in consequence of earlier notice not having been given of the intention of the Government in respect to this measure, a great many members who took a deep interest in the questions to be raised on going into Supply (which was the next order on the paper) were now absent, being wholly unprepared for the change just proposed.

Lord PALMERSTON said that the Government considered the measure to be one of such great importance that they were unwilling, up to the last moment, to abandon the hope of being able to pass it through Parliament this Session.

After a lengthened conversation the House resumed, and the bill was withdrawn.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE LONDON CORPORATION BILL.

Sir G. C. LEWIS announced the intention of the Government to withdraw this bill also for the present Session.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

On the order of the day for going into Committee of Supply, Sir C. NAPIER called attention to the subject of Greenwich Hospital, and moved a resolution to the effect that the recommendations of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the condition of the hospital ought to be carried out. The gallant Admiral complained of many things affecting the comforts and condition of the inmates of the hospital, and urged upon the Admiralty the justice and propriety of taking immediate steps to remove the discontent and dissatisfaction that existed on the subject.

Lord C. PAGET said that the attention of the Admiralty was given to the able report alluded to, with the view of carrying out the recommendations, as far as it was possible, without the necessity of applying for an Act of Parliament.

After some discussion the motion was withdrawn.

NAVY ESTIMATES.

The House then went into Committee upon the Navy Estimates, the consideration of which occupied the remainder of the sitting.

THE NEW ORDNANCE.—Ten 40-pound guns are received weekly at Woolwich for completion from Sir W. Armstrong's factory at Elswick. The first batch of 100-pound Armstrong guns, intended for the naval service, were proved on Thursday at the Government practice-range, Woolwich, with entire success, and Sir W. Armstrong has undertaken to produce at least 400 of these guns by the end of the present year. A brass rifled gun, weighing more than eleven tons, has been lately cast at Woolwich Arsenal. This immense piece of ordnance is to be rifled on the muzzle-loading principle, and is intended for experimental trials at the school of gunnery, Shoeburyness, in competition with rifled guns made from steel or cast and wrought iron.

A SCENE IN ST. MARK'S, VENICE.—"Great indignation," says the *Spectator*, "has been felt at the expressions made use of by the Canon Zucchi, on the 1st inst., in St. Mark's Cathedral, in this city. After alluding to present events, he exclaimed, 'Oh, mothers! why have you not watched over your children? Why have you not prevented them from placing themselves under the standard of that impious man whom they call Victor Emmanuel—that King who swallows up thrones—that monster who, impelled by his blind ambition, only seeks to destroy our holy religion? Oh, mothers! cursed be you all, as well as your children, to the fourth generation! May the malediction of the Lord fall on your houses, and may your souls perish eternally!' This language provoked loud murmurs and hisses, but some priests interfered, and the auditory, docile to their voice, retired to manifest their discontent in the public square. The police arrested fifteen persons and closed several cafés, at the doors of which groups of people had formed."

SAD ACCIDENT.—A terrible accident took place at the Ratcliff Gasworks, near the Thames Tunnel, on Tuesday. While a new telescopic gasholder was being lowered into the tank prepared to receive it the chains broke, and the result, of course, was that the unwieldy mass was precipitated to the ground. One unfortunate man was killed and several others were seriously injured.

THE RUSSIANS AND CIRCASSIANS.—From Trebizond we have news of another combat, on the 15th ult., between the Circassians and the Russians. A strong Russian detachment was on that day escorting a large remittance of specie to a neighbouring military station, when they were assailed by a body of the mountaineers, and, after an obstinate fight, defeated, with the loss of the whole convoy of roubles. The prize being considerable, the struggle is said to have been proportionally bloody, with a large corresponding loss on both sides. Six days before a general exchange of prisoners had taken place at Soujak.

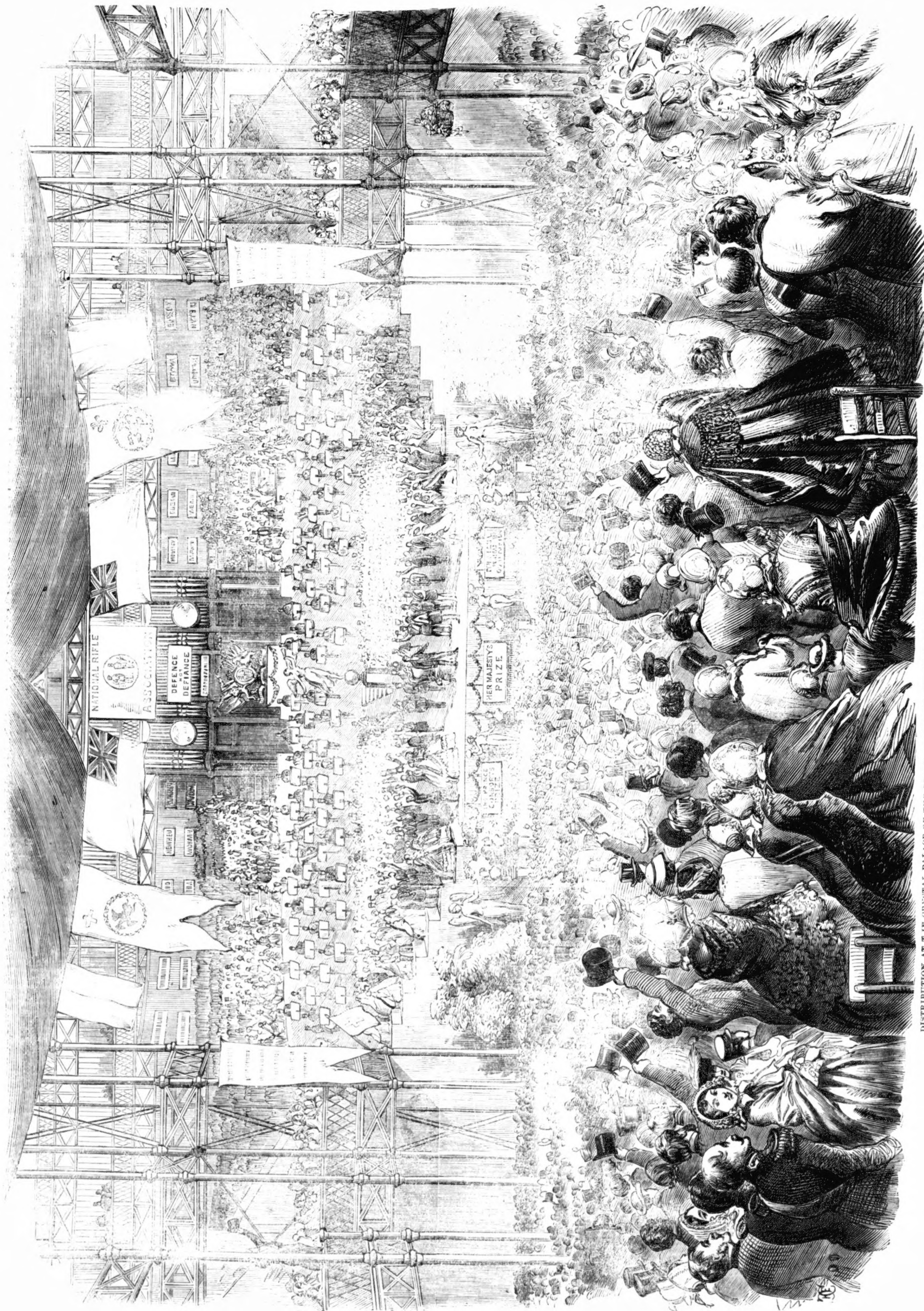
CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM IN HAMBURG.—The old aristocratic, but free, Constitution of the Republic of Hamburg is no more. An extensive scheme of reform, in the sense of representative institutions of modern shape, which, under the name of "Constitution of the Nine," has been ventilated since 1848, has been first, with but little variation, adopted by the Senate and now by the body of freeholders, or, as they are called at Hamburg hereditary burgesses.

THE UNION BANK IN CHANCERY.—A bill in Chancery has, we hear, been filed by certain shareholders against the directors of the Union Bank of London, with a view to restrain them from declaring any dividend out of the capital, and to ascertain the liability of the directors to make good the defalcations caused by the frauds of Pullinger.

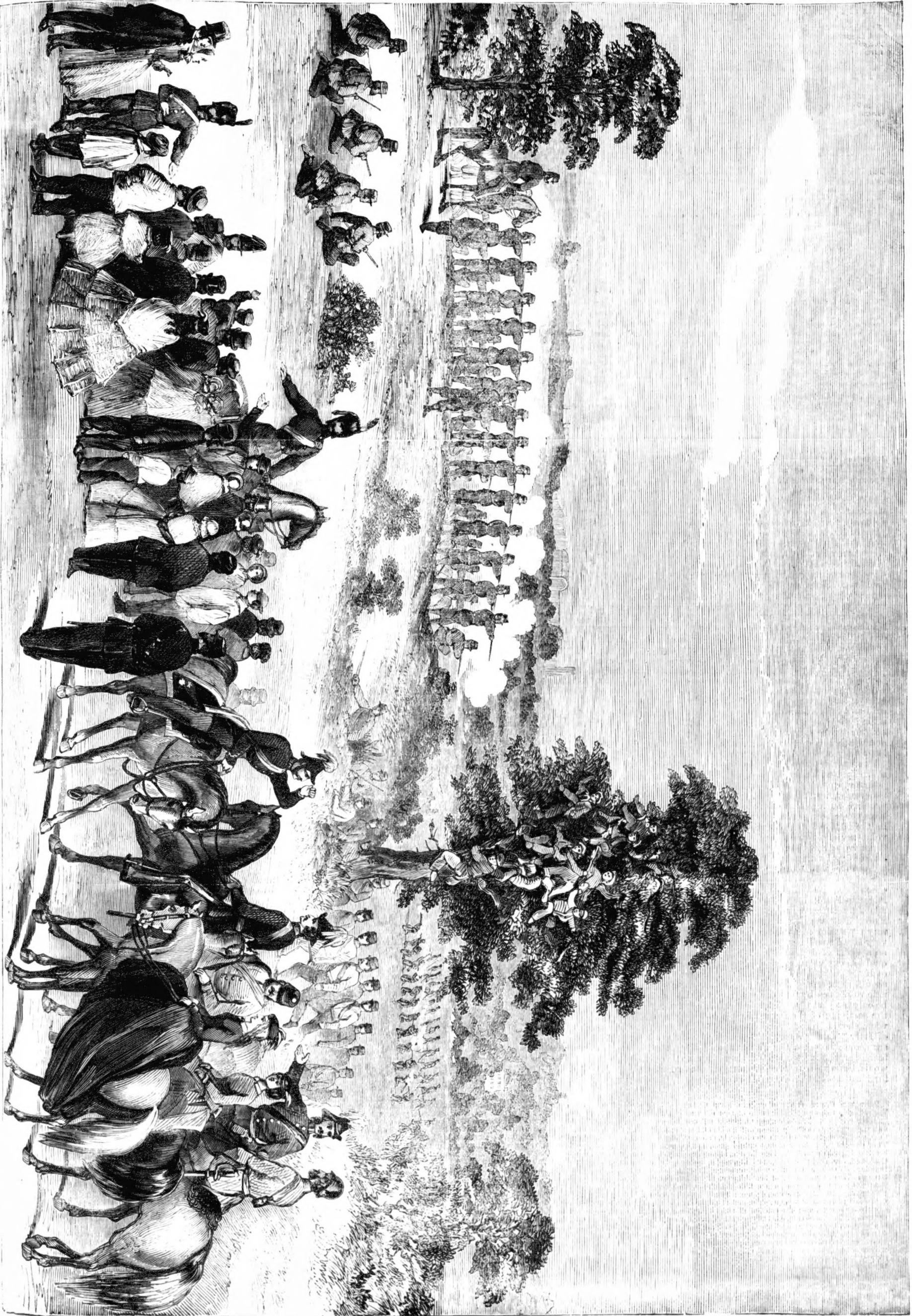
CONTINUATION OF THE ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST RIOTS.—Another disagreeable scene took place at this church on Sunday last. The morning service was intoned by the Rev. Mr. Dove, amidst great uproar, and coughing, and whistling, and stamping of feet. A Mr. Rosier, who was lately fined in the Consistory Court for brawling in this church, again rendered himself conspicuous, and was turned out by Churchwarden Heywood and the police. The evening sermon was preached by the Rev. Edward Stuart, but scarcely a word of it could be heard, in consequence of the uproar that prevailed. We are happy to state there is a reasonable prospect of a settlement of the dissensions in the parish of St. George-in-the-East. Mr. Bryan King is shortly about to retire from the charge of the parish for a year, with the view of allowing time for the subsidence of the present excitement, as well as of recruiting his health, which, as may well be supposed, has been severely taxed by the prolonged anxiety of the past months. His place will be taken by the Rev. Septimus Hansard, who has been long employed as a hardworking curate in one of the districts of Marylebone.

THE JAPANESE.—That all America is not impressed in favour of the Japanese Ambassadors may be judged from the following summary of their mental and physical qualifications which has appeared in the (U.S.) *Leader*:—"A meaner set of barbarians our eyes had never the misfortune to rest upon. Stunted, ill-shaped, narrow-headed, yellow-skinned, high-smelling, ferret-eyed, flat-footed, greedy, and cunning—it makes our blood tingle through every vein when we reflect that the virtue of American womanhood has been slandered and called in question on account of such half-human abominations. Not a man in the Embassy knew the meaning of personal cleanliness. The 'Princes' (God save the mark!) had but two suits of silk clothes each, which they wore without change of underclothing from the day they left Nippon until to-day." This chivalrous defence of American womanhood has reference to an interesting piece of scandal just now in circulation regarding "Tommy." The whole story, however, seems to be a mere vulgar report, and containing no more truth than is generally to be found in such lively but fictitious anecdotes.

PRINCE JEROME'S FIRST MARRIAGE.—The *Independence Belge* was withdrawn from circulation in Paris, on Wednesday, for mentioning that certain law proceedings were in process on behalf of Miss Paterson, the late Jerome's first and valid wife, involving not only property but social rank and other inconvenient results. Rumours of this have been rife in Paris, but of course no one printed them, and, to add to the explosion, certain signatures of Jerome to documents in possession of M^{me}. Letitia Bonaparte Wyse were talked of as about to be enforced; in the latter case summary treatment was inevitable—not so with the Baltimore claims. It is generally understood in England that this Miss Paterson was sister to the late Marchioness Wellesley, but that is not exact: she was sister to Robert Paterson, who was the first husband of the subsequent Marchioness; but that lady was a granddaughter of Carroll, of Carrollton, an Irish settler, whose name figures among the signatures of the great Charter or Declaration of American Independence.—*Globe Correspondent*.



DISTRIBUTION AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE OF THE PRIZES GAINED IN THE RIFLE-SHOOTING CONTEST.—FROM A SKETCH BY E. CLAYTON, LONDON IRISH RIFLES.



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The Index and Titlepage to the last Volume of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES will be issued with the next Number.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1860.

FRANCE AND HER VOLUNTEERS.

WE hear that the French, like ourselves, are about to form rifle companies, apparently deeming their Chasseurs de Vincennes and their rifle-armed Zouaves insufficient for the protection of their country. The brave, simple-hearted Jules Gérard, whose lion-killing narrative contrasts so forcibly with that of the boastful Gordon Cumming, is at the head of the volunteer movement on the other side of the Channel; and with such a chief and model before them—a lieutenant of spahis only as regards military rank, but as to the use of his favourite weapon the coolest and most skilful shot in France—we cannot doubt but that first-rate rifle-shooting will be the great point to which the energies of this newly-organised and in all respects very novel corps will be directed. Well, it matters not to us to what extent soldiers are raised in France, or elsewhere on the Continent, if only for defensive purposes; and this is so much the case that it never entered any one's head in England to compute, except purely as a matter of statistics, the number of the French National Guard, or of the Russian Militia, or even of the Prussian Landwehr—by far the most formidable of these bodies in point of character. Of course, any force that can do duty at home as an armed police, which is after all the chief work that has been done by Continental armies during the last forty-five years, sets free so many regular troops, capable of being employed on any good or bad business abroad that the despot may have in view; and in this way we may look with a certain suspicion on the formation of rifle companies in France. But it must also be remembered that these companies will not be composed of the sort of persons who could be trusted to do their master's work in opposition to the national feeling, and moreover, that Napoleon III. is the last person in the world to place confidence in troops who in his eyes will never be anything but amateurs and the merest smatterers in military science. One of the first of Louis Napoleon's acts, after the coup d'état of 1851, was to suppress one legion of the National Guard, which consisted almost entirely of workmen whose hands, during any popular disturbance, were invariably turned against the Government, and another, including a number of ultra-pacific shopkeepers, who just as invariably allowed the workmen to disarm them. He also weeded the ten other legions of all who could be suspected, even, of having reasons for being disaffected—such as poverty, or known attachment to any previous régime—and has since done all in his power to keep open the breach which he himself created between the military and all other classes in France, and which the encouragement of a National Guard, or of a large body of skilled marksmen, would tend to fill up.

The building, then, of another new frigate, or the casting of a hundred new rifled cannon, would be to us far more dangerous symptoms than this endeavour to imitate our English rifle companies. The French, except under some extraordinary pressure, such as that which followed the Revolution of 1789, have never been great at volunteer soldiering (for even service in the National Guard during Louis Philippe's time was not voluntary except in so far that it was imposed upon the people through their representatives); and we have yet to learn that Jules Gérard's attempt to organise rifle corps among his countrymen has been attended with success. That a certain number of the members of the "Society of St. Hubert" and other fraternities of sportsmen will accept service under the Algerian lion-killer we have no doubt; nor that they will adopt a picturesque uniform, and sing the chorus from "Der Freischütz" very creditably. But, in spite of the great military reputation of the French nation, we are quite sure that very few Frenchmen will of their own accord go through such an amount of drilling, marching, or even target-practice as qualified our volunteers, in only a few months, for the exploits of Hyde Park, Wimbledon, and Chiselmhurst. If, however, we should be in error on this point, and France should enrol her rifle volunteers by tens of thousands, we should, for our part, be only too glad that that reduction of the regular Army, which the partisans of the French Emperor declare to be his dearest wish, should be so far facilitated. It is the Emperor's "Army of Italy" and "Army of the Rhine" that we regard with suspicion; but that the French should have a million volunteers for the protection of their own unthreatened homes would be to us a matter of as much concern as though the fortifications of Paris should be tripled.

PROPOSED CONCENTRATION OF THE LAW COURTS.—The report of the Royal Commission on the selection of new sites for the Courts of Law has just been issued. The Attorney-General's scheme for appropriating the entire space between Curry-street and the Strand is carefully considered by the Commissioners, who are unanimously in favour of adopting that scheme. They propose that the different offices (fourteen in number) shall all be brought together; that the Law Courts, instead of sitting at Westminster, Guildhall, Basinghall-street, and Doctors' Commons, shall be demitted together. The site is midway between the Temple, Lincoln's Inn, and Serjeants' Inn, where most of the solicitors and counsel dwell. Lincoln's Inn fields and Chancery-lane are full of lawyers, and they would thus be able to transact their business in very nearly half the time that they are compelled to devote to it now. The cost of acquiring the site, the purchase of existing houses, and the erection of other houses will, it is estimated, be enormous. This, however, does not deter the Commissioners from advocating the plan, on the ground that the Unclaimed Suitors' Fund, with the exception of some £16,000 to be provided for out of the Consolidated Fund, will be quite sufficient to cover every expense. All that the House of Commons will have to do will be to pass a short bill authorising the expenditure of the money, and guaranteeing that, in case any of it shall hereafter be claimed, the Treasury shall be empowered to make it good.

SAVINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE REGENT OF PRUSSIA has allotted a sum of 10,000 crowns for the erection of a monument to Goethe, which is to be similar to that now being raised to Schiller.

THE KING OF SWEDEN will be crowned as King of Norway on the 30th of this month, at Dronheim, with great solemnity.

CARDINAL WISEMAN'S ILLNESS has become very serious.

MR. WHITE has been returned for Brighton: he took the oath and his seat on Tuesday.

THE WEATHER has still been highly favourable for the crops, and we receive encouraging accounts from all parts of the country.

MR. C. H. W. A'COCK has been appointed Assistant Comptroller of the National Debt, and will be succeeded in the office of Special Commissioner of the Income Tax by Colonel F. Romilly.

A VOLUME of "Speeches in Parliament and Miscellaneous Writings of the late Henry Drummond" is announced.

THE PROSPECTS of a new daily paper, of a "Liberal-Conservative" politics, has just been issued. The paper is to be published at noon every day, so as to be enabled to give the news of the morning mails; and its title is to be the *Day*, its price one penny.

MR. T. D. HARRY, of the Record Office, is preparing a new pamphlet on the Collier controversy. Mr. Harry was one of the five commissioners whom the Master of the Rolls appointed to examine the "Players' Petition," preserved in the State Paper Office, and who unanimously pronounced it a forgery.

THE GREAT BERKELEY PEERAGE QUESTION, arising out of a claim put in by Vice-Admiral Sir Maurice Berkeley, K.C.B., of Berkeley Castle, to the title, honour, and dignity of Baron Berkeley, as being seized as tenant for life in possession of the Castle of Berkeley and of the manors and hereditaments which constituted the barony of Berkeley, is now under the consideration of a Committee of Privileges.

THE BRITISH OF CALCUTTA, not to be behind the race in their enthusiastic admiration of "pluck," have raised a subscription for Savers, which will reach a handsome sum. The subscriptions were limited to ten rupees, or one pound.

THE EARL OF CARDIGAN has accepted the command of the Light Horse Volunteer Corps.

THE KING OF SWEDEN will be crowned as King of Norway on the 30th of this month, at Dronheim, with great solemnity.

THE POST OF AIDE-DE-CAMP to HER MAJESTY vacant by the death of Captain Watson, C.B., has been conferred upon Captain James J. Stopford.

BLONDIN, the acrobat, walked across Niagara River on the 20th ultimo on a tightrope, with his head and shoulders enveloped in a sack. He crossed in thirteen minutes.

A CUTTING OF THE VINE planted by the great Napoleon at St. Helena has been planted in the ditch of the Tower of London.

A COMMITTEE OF LADIES, headed by the Countess of Shaftesbury, has been formed for the purpose of relieving the distress of the families of the brave fellows who perished fighting for Sicilian liberty, or who fell victims in the foul bombardment of Palermo.

THE CRYSTAL THRONE of the King of Delhi had reached Benares on the 7th of June, and was to be shipped thence to Calcutta.

THE PREFECT OF POLICE OF PARIS has issued an order interdicting the playing of the game of billiards known by the name of "Poule de Sebastopol" in all the cafés of the department of the Seine.

AN INTERESTING MEETING on behalf of the deaf and dumb was held a few days since at Willis's Rooms. Its object was to obtain funds for erecting an edifice in which the unfortunate persons could worship, and which should also include a home for the aged and infirm among them.

A SCHEME is talked of in Paris for running steamers direct from Newcastle to Paris and back, charged with iron, coals, chemicals, firebricks, &c., on one way, and carrying wine and other French produce back. In combination with this plan is the idea of carrying French produce intended for Russia to Newcastle, as an entrepôt, whence it may be forwarded by steamer to St. Petersburg.

THE PUBLIC AUCTION of the objects of art left by Alexander von Humboldt has been fixed for the 17th of September at Berlin.

ACCORDING TO STATISTICAL TABLES, there are at present in Europe 18,140 actors, 21,609 actresses, 1773 managers of theatres; and the number of persons attached in one way or another to dramatic establishments amounts to 82,206.

THE LARGE AND VALUABLE COLLECTION OF DRAWINGS, diagrams, plates, preparations, and other articles used by Dr. Lindley in illustration of his botanical lectures while Professor at University College will shortly be sold by Mr. Stevens.

THE "ATHENÆUM" tells us that Lords Kildare, Dunraven, and Talbot of Malahide have associated themselves with Drs. Todd, O'Donovan, and other scholars, to promote the compiling and printing of an Irish Dictionary.

AT NO FORMER PERIOD OF OBSERVATION, according to the bulletin of the Paris Observatory, have so many spots been seen on the sun as during the last fortnight. They are not only remarkable for their number, but also for their magnitude. They occupy for the most part two zones parallel to the solar equator, along which they are disposed in from ten to twelve groups, containing about sixty spots.

THE CHANNEL FLEET, consisting of eleven sail of the line, arrived in Bantry Bay on Saturday. The demand in the locality for fresh provisions has given a great impetus to the beef trade. One dealer slaughters daily twenty head of cattle for the supply of the fleet.

THE EXISTENCE OF NATIVE DIAMONDS has been discovered in Australia in the black sand of the Owens district. Rubies and other gems of very small size had previously been found in the same deposit.

THE PRESS states that orders had been received to hasten the fitting out of the plated steam-frigate *La Gloire*, required to be ready by the 20th. It is supposed that she is intended to escort the Emperor on his voyage to Corsica and Algeria.

A LETTER written and signed by Mary Stuart, and addressed to her mother, Catherine de Medicis, was (says *Galignani*) sold lately, at a sale of autographs, for 222 francs.

A NATIONAL SHOOTING ASSOCIATION has just received the authority of the Emperor of the French on the same principle as that recently inaugurated in England. Jules Gérard, the famous lion-killer, is to have the management of the enterprise.

SIR WILLIAM HORNE, who was Solicitor-General from 1830 to 1832, and Attorney-General from 1832 to 1834, died a few days since. He resigned the last-named office on being offered the place of a Puisse Baron of the Exchequer, but almost immediately afterwards declined to accept the appointment.

SOME MORE VALUABLE GUANO DISCOVERIES in the South Pacific have been reported.

THE DEFENCE OF LONDON.—On Monday Colonel Sholto Adair delivered a lecture at the United Service Institution on the defence of the metropolis. Sir J. Burgoyne took the chair. With the assistance of maps and plans he clearly demonstrated the advantage of the natural position of London, and asserted his belief that the natural formation of the country around the metropolis rendered it one of the strongest capitals of Europe. With its natural strength increased by forts at the proper points, those forts connected by an easily-raised line of fieldworks, and both defended by a disciplined force, such as the country now possessed, he believed no attack could succeed. With these preparations it was improbable it would be made. But, assuming a hostile army to be advancing, its first object would be to terrify and demoralise the inhabitants of the city by the terrible effects of a vertical fire, driving in a panic-stricken crowd from the suburbs upon the centre. But by keeping the enemy on the outward slopes of the hills round London his power of mischief would be neutralised. The forts should be so placed as to prevent an army penetrating through these lines at the weaker points, and delaying it till the regular forces could operate. For these forts 870 guns in all would be sufficient; by not requiring them all to be of heavy calibre seven men to each gun would be enough to serve them. It would be important to send every disposable man of the regular army into the open field. To every body of volunteers he thought a number of engineers should be attached, as well as certain kinds of artificers; workmen were always mentioned along the volunteers who, in the reign of Elizabeth, rose against the Spanish threat of invasion. Colonel Adair pointed out that the line of railway surrounding the north side of London could be made an important means of the work of defence. It would enable the commanders to clear the front of their force of the crowd of non-combatants, who were always a source of danger, and the railroad that could remove them to the rear would serve as a line of defence by dividing it into artillery districts.

MISSIONARY INDISCRETION.—"The missionaries of Benares (says the *Calcutta Englishman*) have been issuing anonymous circular letters calling on the Hindoos to leave their idolatrous habits and accept Christianity. The attention of the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces and the Viceroy has been directed to the subject, and he has addressed the missionaries in a temperate tone of remonstrance. The misguided zeal of these men, if not restrained, may yet cause great trouble in a country like this."

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THERE was one of the most laughable "sells" in the House of Commons on Tuesday night that I ever saw. Probably your writer of the "Inner Life" will notice it at length next week. Meanwhile I will just give you a few lines about it. The case was this:—On Lord Farnham's motion on the privilege question Lord Palmerston moved, quite unexpectedly, the previous question. Whilst the debate was going on Mr. Disraeli thought that he saw a chance of putting the Government in a minority. No good to him or to his party could come from such a result, except a temporary triumph; but this small advantage was not to be neglected. It would, at all events, please his own party and mortify his opponents. The idea that flashed upon the mind of the Conservative chief was that, if he resisted the motion of the Premier, all the Radicals would go with him, and in that case he would certainly beat the Government. Communications were at once opened with some of the more prominent Radicals. They listened to the overtures, and the decision was made. Disraeli was to push his opposition to a division. The Radicals were to help him, and the Government was to be beaten. Well, at last the division came; and to the astonishment of the Conservatives and their leader, the Radicals, with the exception of four, all walked into the Government lobby, and Disraeli was beaten by 33. The excitement on this small fight was immense. The whips were rushing about in every direction just before the division; and when the numbers were announced it was worth a Jew's eye to see the dismay of the Conservatives and to hear the joyous cheers of the Government. The reason why the Radicals so suddenly changed their tactics is easily explained:—The Government whips, as soon as they saw through the move, set to work, and by dint of explanation and exhortation exposed the manoeuvre, and succeeded in showing that, by forsaking the Government, the Radicals would be merely submitting to be the catspaws of their natural foes, and gain no advantage for themselves. "This true, if you go over, we shall be beaten; but afterwards, when the main question shall be put, your friends will desert you, and you will be in a minority. Will you be made catspaws in this way?" The logic was invincible, and hence the sudden change. So confident was the leading Conservative whip of success that he openly announced that he was going to win. There has rarely in my experience been such a capital instance of the engineer hoisted by his own petard as this. Whilst I write it is the topic of the clubs and the lobbies. In short, it was a regular sell; and Dizzy's "wreath has lost a rose." It is worthy of notice that some dozen of the Conservatives voted with the Government. Some say that they went into the wrong lobby by mistake, and this is possible, for these mistakes not unfrequently happen when the previous question is put, for this mode of setting a motion before the House is very perplexing; but I scarcely think that it was so. My notion is that these gentlemen thought that the move of Mr. Disraeli was an unworthy dodge which gentlemen ought not to countenance. And, talking of unworthy dodges, I may here notice that the whole of the proceedings of this night were not creditable to those who originated them. The principal motive was not to oppose the innovation of the Lords. Opposition to the Lords was only a mask. The main object was to put Gladstone in a fix. Else why were communications opened early in the evening between the Conservatives and the Radicals? Indeed, it was well known about the House that this was the object. Gladstone has denounced the conduct of the Lords as "a gigantic innovation;" he appeared to be backing away from his position; the Radicals were determined to bring him to book, and the Conservatives were not slow to help them, that they might get him into difficulty with his colleagues, and, perhaps, compel him to commit himself; then he must resign. This, I have no doubt, was the plot; but I need not tell your readers that it gloriously failed. Gladstone was equal to the occasion, held his ground well, but amply justified his refusal to vote with Lord Farnham. It is quite clear that nothing can be done in this matter this Session; but if the Radicals will but bide their time in patience that time will come, and Gladstone will be at his post, I have no doubt. It would be too costly a sacrifice for him now to make to leave the Ministry. Not in wrong, for he notoriously cares little for them; nor do I allude to his loss of place and power, for all allow that he is not and never has been very anxious for that. No; what I mean is, that if he were to secede from the Government now he would leave his great work unfinished, to be patched and marred by some inferior hand. But let him once see that fully accomplished, and I very much mistake Mr. Gladstone if he do not show a front bold enough to satisfy even the Constitutional Defence Committee.

Never was a secret better kept than Gladstone's supplementary Budget. I am assured that in the Inland Revenue Office, and at the Treasury, not a soul knew what it was to be, excepting the Chancellor, and Mr. Pressly, the Chairman of the Inland Revenue Board. Lord Montague, the Comptroller, was quite in the dark. "What! no loan?" said he, when he heard of the plan. "How do you get the money?" "Out of the balances," was the reply; and the noble Lord lifted up his hands with amazement. The great world—by which I mean the gentlemen who form the political coteries of Pall-mall—was altogether on the wrong scent. With them it was to be an additional income tax or a loan; and if an income tax the Chancellor was to be defeated, and the Ministry, of course, to be reformed, minus Gladstone.

The emissary of France alluded to by Mr. "Edithen" Kinglake was not Bright, as some supposed, but Cobden. It is probable, when Cobden comes back and shall appear in his place next Session, as he will do (D.V.), he will have a bone to pick with Mr. Kinglake, and sundry explanations to ask, in his calm and quiet way, from him and others.

The Times was wrong on Friday when it stated that there were ninety-two orders upon the order-book of the House. The greatest number that has appeared was fifty-two; and this is enough—far more than ever appeared there before. But the slaughter has begun, and will go on rapidly now. Still, the report holds that the House must sit on till the end of August to clear off its business. Meanwhile, Gladstone is unwell, Lord John ditto, Sir George Lewis's face looks like a skeleton covered with parchment, Sir George Grey's is of the colour of wood ashes, Sir Richard Bethell, whom, generally, no toil can conquer, begins obviously to fade; and, indeed, one and all of the Government are pretty nearly done up except the Premier; and upon him nothing seems to make an impression. I happened to be in the House when he quoted Tom Moore's couplet—

The best of all ways to lengthen our days
Is to steal a few hours from the night, my dear;

and I shall not soon forget the jolly, rollicking air with which it was delivered, and the half-singing, lilted style in which he emphasised the last two words.

FORMATION OF A PRUSSIAN NAVY.—"Our readers will remember," says the *Leipzig Gazette*, "that a Commission, composed of members of the different Military and Naval Administrations of Berlin, was named some time since to devise a system of defence for the coasts of Prussia. This Commission proposed the alternative of a powerful navy or the construction of seven strong fortresses, and the Government has decided in favour of a navy. According to the plan adopted the Prussian navy is to consist of ten ships of the line, twenty frigates, and a proportionate number of corvettes and gun-boats."

CESSION OF THE BAY ISLANDS.—The treaty by which her Majesty agrees to recognise the Bay Islands as a part of the Republic of Honduras, and to relinquish the protectorate of that part of the Mosquito territory within the frontier of Honduras, has been laid before Parliament. It states that the treaty is entered into by her Majesty in consequence of "the peculiar geographical position of Honduras, and in order to secure the neutrality of the islands adjacent thereto, with reference to any railway or other line of international communication which may be constructed across the territory of Honduras on the mainland." Honduras engages not to cede the Islands to any other State. There are clauses stipulating that the Islands shall retain perfect freedom of religious belief and worship, public and private, and that their property, and that of the Mosquito Indians, shall be respected, and both are to be at liberty to remove if they think fit; or, remaining, are to have the rights of natives of Honduras. Any claims of British subjects are to be settled by a mixed commission. For the next ten years Honduras is to allow 250,000 dol. a year to the Mosquito Indians for the purpose of education and the improvement of their social condition.

BANQUET TO HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS.

A BANQUET was given to her Majesty's Ministers at the Mansion House on Wednesday. Besides many members of the "diplomatic circle," and nearly all the official delegates to the Statistical Congress, there were present the Lord Chancellor, Viscount Palmerston, Lord John Russell, Sir George C. Lewis, Sir Charles Wood, the Duke of Somerset, Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. Cardwell, Viscount Castlereagh, Lord Wodehouse, Sir F. Currie, and Sir John Burgoyne, G.C.B.

After the removal of the cloth the usual toasts were drunk, and then "The Army and Navy," to which the Duke of Somerset and Sir John Burgoyne responded.

The Lord Mayor then gave "The health of her Majesty's Ministers," to which Lord Palmerston responded as follows:—

"My Lord Mayor, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—For myself and my colleagues I beg to return my most grateful thanks for the kind manner in which our healths have been proposed by your Lordship, and also for the friendly and enthusiastic manner in which the toast has been received by the company. Your Lordship has been pleased to make a comparison between the amount of daily labour which we have to perform and that which falls to the lot of the Lord Mayor of London. My Lord, I believe it would be difficult to say who, during their tenure of office, leads the most laborious life; but, when his Lordship refers to the late hours and other injurious incidents of our vocation as regards bodily health, I beg leave to say that there is one course of life of which I am reminded by the magnificent entertainment to which we have been invited, which I believe to be still more injurious than the hard work and late hours of the House of Commons, if on every day of the week, every week of the month, and every month of the year, your Lordship was obliged to indulge in so splendid and luxurious a repast as that at which we are now assembled. It is the abstinence to which we are compelled to have recourse that enables us to go through our duties. I can assure you, ladies and gentlemen, that, feeling as we do the great responsibility of conducting the affairs of the nation, the greatest satisfaction we can experience is in retiring occasionally from the turmoil of political life and enjoying as we now do the splendid hospitality of the first magistrate of the city of London. It must always be a pleasure to us to see ourselves in the greatest commercial city of the greatest commercial nation of the world, and I trust we may take some credit to ourselves for having during this present Session proposed several measures which must tend greatly to the commercial prosperity of the country. It has sometimes been the fashion to say that commerce destroys the manliness and hardihood of a nation, but the commercial history of the world is full of examples showing the fallacy of that theory. However, if any still stronger proof were wanting of its unsoundness, we have it in the events of the present year, when 130,000 of the youth of this country—the majority of them engaged in commercial pursuits—have submitted to privations and fatigues to which their previous habits had rendered them totally unsuited, and have thrown their whole zeal and energy into the task of providing the best means of defending the country. I think that already the volunteer movement is the noblest spectacle that has ever been exhibited by any nation in the world. We are not without examples in which, when danger imminently threatened a country—when the enemy was knocking at the door—the nation was as one man, and, tearing themselves from the business and pleasures of civil life, prepared to shed their blood for their country. But this is not an instance of this kind. It is said that the lion in the desert sniffs the danger afar off, and prepares himself betimes for whatever emergency may occur. It is so with the youth of this country. They have an instinctive feeling that circumstances may arise in which the ordinary defences of the country may prove inadequate to the occasion. Although their spirit is prophetic, I trust that their prophecy will not be accomplished; yet still we must rejoice to see that, with a manly energy and courage which could not be surpassed, they have already arrayed themselves in the numbers I have stated, and would, if need be, double, treble, or quadruple their numbers. It has been said that if you want peace you must prepare for war. That is true, and it is untrue. It is untrue if it is meant that a nation should arm itself, and place itself in an aggressive attitude; that it should increase its naval and military establishments more than is necessary for defence. In that case it seems evident that aggression upon neighbours is intended, the neighbours are necessarily filled with distrust and alarm, and, instead of being securities for peace, such preparations become the strongest incentives to war. Far better when a nation contents itself, as we are doing, with defensive arming, and repudiates all aggressive demonstrations. Such preparations are the best preservatives of peace; and I trust we shall long continue to keep ourselves in that condition, and say that peace we will have, because he who attacks us shall ever rue the day he has done so. I trust that what I am saying will be taken in its proper sense, as a compliment to that great and noble body the Volunteers of England, who may be looked upon as the most active and practical members of the Peace Society." The noble Lord concluded by repeating his acknowledgments for the toast.

The Lord Mayor then gave "The Foreign Ambassadors," to which Count Bernstorff, the Prussian Ambassador, replied in a few words.

The Lord Chancellor, in responding to the toast of "The House of Lords," described that assembly as the rallying point of public opinion in England. When public opinion went too fast, the Lords were ready to restrain it; and, on the other hand, when the occasion required it, they were ready to listen to the voice of the people, and to be guided by political necessity.

The Lord Mayor, in complimentary terms, proposed "The House of Commons."

Lord John Russell, in replying to the toast, said the House of Commons was an ancient body, which had always been engaged in defending the liberties of the country. The Corporation of the city of London was likewise an ancient body, which had at all times exercised a similar function; at one time protecting the people against the aggressions of the Crown, and at another defending the Crown from the encroachments of the people. Therefore, a strong sympathy had always existed between the House of Commons and the Corporation of the city of London. Both were amongst our most ancient institutions, and he trusted that, whatever measure the House of Commons might apply to the city of London, it would show respect for those great principles of which that Corporation had invariably been the great supporters. It had pleased her Majesty to appoint him the Minister on whom devolved the diplomatic business of the country, and he trusted that in no instance had any act of his sacrificed the national interest or tarnished the national honour. It was the duty of the Government to maintain the honour and interest of the country, without at the same time forgetting what was due to other nations, and to endeavour to bring about such a general agreement as would promote civil and religious liberty all over the world.

The Lord Chancellor then proposed "The health of the Lord Mayor," which was drunk with great cordiality.

The Lord Mayor next gave "The President and Gentlemen of the International Statistical Congress."

M. Le Goyt returned thanks in the French language. He begged on his own part and on that of his colleagues, the delegates from foreign countries at the International Statistical Congress, to thank the Lord Mayor and the company for the toast which had been proposed. He was happy to be afforded the occasion for making known the sentiments of gratitude which they all entertained for the affectionate and cordial hospitality they had received in that great city. For his own part, he would carry away a sweet souvenir of some of the pleasant days of his life, which were those he had passed amongst his English friends. It should be his duty, as well as his pleasure, to make known to the Government which he had the honour to serve the profound sympathy of which he and his colleagues had been the object, in that Congress which he trusted would turn out to be a congress of peace.

The Lord Mayor then gave "The Lady Mayoress," after which the ladies and gentlemen were dispersed, and the company separated.

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CONGRESS.

THE fourth session of the International Statistical Congress was formally opened by the Prince Consort on Monday, in the great hall of King's College. Previous to the arrival of his Royal Highness a preliminary meeting took place, under the presidency of Mr. Milner Gibson, for the appointment of officers and the adoption of regulations for the general meeting and the sections.

His Royal Highness, having taken his place as the president, immediately rose and addressed the meeting. Dwelling upon the objections which have been raised to the study of statistical science, he said:—

We hear it said that its prosecution necessarily leads to Pantheism and the destruction of true religion, as depriving, in man's estimation, the Almighty of his power of free self-determination, making His world a mere machine, working according to a general prearranged scheme, the parts of which are capable of mathematical measurement, and the scheme itself of numerical expression; that it leads to fatalism, and, therefore, deprives man of his dignity—of his virtue and morality—as it would prove him to be a mere wheel in this machine, incapable of exercising a free choice of action, but predestined to fulfil a given task and to run a prescribed course, whether for good or for evil. These are grave accusations, and would be terrible indeed if they were true. But are they true? Is the power of God destroyed or diminished by the discovery of the fact that the earth requires 365 revolutions upon its own axis to every revolution round the sun, giving us so many days to our year; and that the moon changes thirteen times during that period; that the tide changes every six hours; that water boils at a temperature of 212 degrees, according to Fahrenheit; that the nightingale sings only in April and May; that all birds lay eggs; that 106 boys are born to every 100 girls? Or is man a less free agent because it has been ascertained that a generation lasts about thirty years; that there are annually noted at the Post Office the same number of letters on which the writer has forgotten to place any address; and that the number of crimes committed under the same local, national, and social conditions is constant; that the fullgrown man ceases to find amusement in the sports of the child? But our statistical science does not even say that this must be so; it only states that it has been so, and leaves it to the naturalist or political economist to argue that it is probable, from the number of times in which it has been found to be so, that it will be so again as long as the same causes are operating. It thus gave birth to that part of mathematical science called the calculation of probabilities, and even established the theory that in the natural world there exist no certainties at all, but only probabilities. Although this doctrine, destroying man's feeling of security to a certain extent, has startled and troubled some, it is no less true that, while we may reckon with a thoughtless security on the sun rising to-morrow, this is only a probable event, the probability of which is capable of being expressed by a determined mathematical fraction. Our insurance offices have, from a vast collection of statistical facts, established to such a precision the probable duration of man's life that they are able to enter with each individual into a precise bargain on the value of this life; and yet this does not imply an impious pretension to determine when this individual is really to die. But we are met also by the most opposite objection, and statistics are declared useless because they cannot be relied on for the determination of any given case, and do only establish probabilities where man requires and asks for certainty. This objection is well founded, but it does not affect the science itself, but solely the use which man has in vain tried to make of it, and for which it is not intended. It is the essence of the statistical science that it only makes apparent general laws, but that these laws are inapplicable to any special case; that, therefore, what is proved to be laws in general is uncertain in particular. Herein lies the real refutation also of the first objection; and thus is the power, wisdom, and goodness of the Creator manifested, showing how the Almighty has established the physical and moral world on unchangeable laws conformable to His eternal nature, while He has allowed to the individual the freest and fullest use of his faculties, vindicating at the same time the Majesty of His laws by their remaining unaffected by individual self-determination. Gentlemen, I am almost ashamed to speak such homely truths (of which I feel myself at best to be a very inadequate exponent) to a meeting like this, including men of such eminence in the science, and particularly in the presence of one who was your first president, M. Quetelet, and from whom I had the privilege, now twenty-four years ago, to receive my first instruction in the higher branches of mathematics—one who has so successfully directed his great abilities to the application of the science to those social phenomena, the discovery of the governing laws of which can only be approached by the accumulation and reduction of statistical facts. It is the social condition of mankind as exhibited by those facts which form the chief object of the study and investigation undertaken by this Congress; and it hopes that the results of its labours will afford to the statesman and legislator a sure guide in his endeavours to promote social development and happiness. I should detain you longer than I feel justified in doing, and should perhaps trench upon the domain and duties of presidents of sections, if I were to allude to the points which will there be specially recommended to your attention and consideration. But I trust that it will not be thought presumptuous in me if I exhort you generally not to lose yourselves in points of minute detail, however tempting and attractive they may be from their intrinsic interest and importance, but to direct your undivided energies to the establishment of those broad principles upon which the common action of different nations can be based, which common action must be effected if we are to make real progress. I know that this Congress can only suggest and recommend, and that it must ultimately rest with the different Governments to carry out those suggestions. Many previous recommendations, it is true, have been carried out; but many have been left unattended to, and I will not except our own country from blame in this respect. Happy and proud, indeed, should I feel if this noble gathering should be enabled to lay the solid foundation of an edifice, necessarily slow of construction, and requiring for generations to come laborious and persevering exertion, intended as it is for the promotion of human happiness by leading to the discovery of those eternal laws upon which that universal happiness is dependent. May He, who has implanted in our hearts a craving after the discovery of truth, and given us our reasoning faculties to the end that we should use them for this discovery, sanctify our efforts and bless them in their results.

The Prince was loudly cheered at the conclusion of his address, and a vote of thanks to him, moved by Lord Brougham, was carried with loud acclamation. Lord Brougham added that he was exceedingly glad to find that, notwithstanding St. Swithin had been true to his word in bringing a thorough wet day, it had in no way affected the attendance at the opening meeting of the Congress. And he hoped his friend Mr. Dallas would excuse him for further stating that he had great pleasure in observing a negro gentleman amongst them.

Dr. Delany, the negro gentleman alluded to by Lord Brougham, said, "I thank you, my Lord Brougham, very much for the kind allusion you have made to me; and I beg to assure you and all the gentlemen present that I, too, am a man." At which there was great cheering from all parts of the room.

The President then adjourned the meeting, and announced that the sections would begin business next day at ten o'clock.

THE "TWO DOGS" AND THE BURGLAR.—The *Greenock Advertiser* has the following:—"A short time ago a gentleman residing at the east end was awakened by a noise in his garden, and on opening the window he observed by the moonlight a fellow spring up a tree as if to avoid detection and obtain shelter till danger was past. The gentleman possesses a terrier of rather ferocious disposition, and he immediately let the animal into the garden whilst he hastily donned his garments in order to seize the intruder. The dog at once flew to the tree and kept up an incessant barking, which awakened a tenant in the lower flat, who, seeing the posture of affairs, thought he would 'make assurance doubly sure' by loosing a dog which he had only brought home on the previous day. No sooner, however, had it made its appearance than it was pined by the bull-terrier as an intrusive stranger, and a savage combat ensued. The thief or burglar, or whoever he might be, seized the golden opportunity, and, gliding down the tree, made off at full speed; and when the irate owners of the dogs made their appearance they saw him disappearing over the wall, and found their curs half throttled. After separating them with difficulty, they returned home, both convinced of the truth of the adage respecting 'the best-laid schemes of mice and men.'"

TRUTH IN A FOG.—In the papers relating to the late discontent among local European troops in India just presented to Parliament are the records of the Court of Inquiry at Meerut, appointed to ascertain from the men the grounds of their complaints, with arrangements for transferring the army from the Company to the Queen. Private J. McIntyre, a native of Glasgow, said:—"I was attested to serve the East India Company for twelve or fourteen years. Heavens! my grievances, seeing that I enlisted for the East India Company for the said term, should not as a loyal subject of her Majesty by birth be termed a subject loyal to her Majesty by servitude, through this transfer of the Company to the Crown, puzzles and blinds my understanding to say expressive, with a patriot's feeling, that it is inconsistent with true British principles to turn over a handkerchief with goods in such transfer. I, therefore, sir, until my conscience runs clearly through the channels of my own understanding, by my preserving of a reasonable claim, I must, such then, shall consider myself entitled to a free bounty or free discharge."

THE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

WE cannot do better than record the phenomena attendant on the eclipse of the sun on Wednesday by reprinting certain correspondence which has appeared in the daily journals.

First we have a telegram from Ciranda, in Spain, sent by one of the party who left England to observe the complete obscuration of the sun. It is to the following effect:—

"The success was complete. We have two photographs of red flames, which prove they belong to the sun, and many photographs of other phases."

Mr. Hind, writing from Mr. Bishop's Observatory, Regent's Park, says:—

"Although the eclipse will probably have been seen in London without interruption from the clouds sufficient to disappoint the general observer, the sky was too much obscured in the direction of the sun to enable us to ascertain the times of beginning and ending satisfactorily; indeed, at the ending the sun was quite invisible. At 1h. 38m. 21s., or ten seconds before the calculated time of commencement at this observatory, the eclipse had certainly not begun. On the next view of the sun, at 1h. 39m. 11s., the indentation of the moon upon his disc was very perceptible. I cannot speak positively as to the precise time of commencement, but I imagine it must have been later than the moment predicted (1h. 38m. 31s.), probably by between twenty and thirty seconds. This difference can hardly arise from absolute errors in the places of the sun and moon, though it is not too great to be produced by the correction which the assumed ratio of the diameters may require."

"With adequate magnifying power on Mr. Bishop's 10-feet equatorial telescope inequalities on the preceding and following limbs of the moon were very distinct; they were great enough to render pretty certain the visibility of Bailey's beads in the line of totality. Three solar spots were visible to the naked eye."

"At 2h. 29m. there was, to my eye, a perceptible diminution of sunlight, and the blue of the sky, in breaks towards the N.E., was certainly deepening. At 2h. 32m. sensibly cooler. At 2h. 31m. the decrease in daylight was more perceptible, but a rather heavy nimbus cloud in the N.W. probably heightened the effect of the eclipse. At 2h. 37m. a large expanse of clear sky in the south; the blue was not of the ordinary tint—it appeared duller, or more of an indigo-blue; the air very chilly. At 2h. 42m., or about six minutes previous to the greatest eclipse, the deeper colour of the sky was very marked, in a break N.W. of the zenith. Near the horizon a mistiness had arisen, obscuring objects which were distinct enough at the beginning of the eclipse. At 2h. 45m., about the time of middle, with the sun shining clearly, the light thrown over the grounds of the park was yellow, as frequently remarked on previous occasions when the sun has been equally obscured."

"At 3h. the eclipse was evidently lessening its effects, and six minutes later there was a very considerable difference in the blue of the sky, where it had been most changed. At 3h. 14m. the sun had almost recovered his full power."

"At 2h. 30m. Mr. Talmage (assistant at the observatory) considered the sky much darker than five minutes previously; it had the appearance of a November sky just before a snowstorm. At 2h. 37m. the light of the sky was similar to that of a summer's morning about half an hour before sunrise. At 2h. 49m. (the time of greatest eclipse) Highgate Church, visible at the commencement, could not be discerned; it was seen again at 3h. 10m. At 1h. 40m. the thermometer stood at 70.3 deg.; at 2h. 30m. the reading was 69.3 deg., and at 4h. 68.8 deg. Thus, towards the time of greatest phase the temperature fell 1 deg. in 50 minutes, but only 0.5 in the next hour and a half."

Meteorological observations were taken by Mr. G. Symons, of Camden-road Villas. He says:—"I shall not allude to any telescopic observations but one, by which the error of my chronometer may be ascertained. The last contact appeared to occur at 3h. 54m. 22s. p.m.; this is within ten seconds of the time calculated for Greenwich, so I presume my time is sufficiently near the truth for meteorological purposes."

"I shall also omit all reference to the effect on the landscape. I saw none beyond a diminution of the light, which, as in 1858, when I observed the annular eclipse at Oundle, bore more resemblance to the approach of a heavy shower than anything else; it should, however, be borne in mind that those who have been using coloured glasses on powerful telescopes may, by that very fact, be led to form most erroneous opinions."

"The barometer was only read occasionally, as the very careful observations in 1858 failed to show any variation which could be connected with the eclipse."

"The highest temperature in the shade during the day was 71.8 deg.; in the sun the highest was 114.0 deg. during the forenoon, yet the very instrument which had read thus high before the eclipse fell to 65.7 during it."

"The lowest temperature during the time of the eclipse was, on the grass, 60.2 deg., between two and three p.m."

"These particulars, combined with the table, will, I trust, be satisfactory as far as meteorology is concerned."

In conclusion, I wish to refer to a series of photometric measurements which have been made by means of prepared photographic paper, sections of which were exposed to the sun's rays for five-minute intervals from 1.25 to 4.15 p.m.; the result is a graduated scale of tints, of the beauty and utility of which I am not, of course, an impartial judge, but I shall intrust the record to Negretti for the purpose of having it copied (by photography) on a small scale for private distribution among those who are interested in such matters; they, therefore, can form their own opinions."

ANOTHER BANK FRAUD.—At the annual meeting of the proprietors of the Union Bank of Australia on Monday the directors announced that Edward Bradley, their cashier at Melbourne, had defrauded the bank of £10,000. He had absconded. However, his friends had given the bank a bond of surety for him for £5000, and they expressed a determination to enforce it.

LOSS OF AN AUSTRALIAN PASSENGER-SHIP.—A telegram has been received by the secretary of the Liverpool Underwriters' Association from Lisbon stating that the passenger-ship *Frederick Gifford*, from Liverpool to Australia, had been lost off Paraiba, but that the crew and passengers were all saved. The vessel referred to is no doubt the American ship *Frederick Gifford*, of New York, which sailed from Liverpool for Melbourne on the 27th of April, with a full cargo, about twenty passengers, and a crew of twenty-eight hands.

FRANCE AND ROME.—A Turin letter in the *Cologne Gazette* gives the following, from what it represents to be a good source:—"The Emperor Napoleon recently wrote an autograph letter to the Pope, in which he prayed him to be kind enough to pay serious attention to a note of M. Thouvenel, sent with it. This note, of which the Marquis de Cadore read and communicated a copy to Cardinal Antonelli, expresses in detail the wishes, intentions, and objects of the French Government. It says that the Emperor blames the conduct of the Government of Victor Emmanuel towards the high clergy, and that his Majesty employs all his efforts to put an end to its painful proceedings; also that the Emperor hopes to cause the Prelates who have been arrested to be set at liberty and sent to Rome; likewise to prevent Count Cavour from prosecuting the ecclesiastical dignitaries who are under accusation. The Pontifical Government, the note next says, ought to be convinced that, generally speaking, France has not ceased to entertain sympathy for it; and she believes that she will give a new proof of that sympathy by taking occasion to insist anew on the necessity of effecting reforms—of taking into account the desire which exists in the Pontifical State for constitutional institutions, and especially for having all ordinances relative to finance and taxation to emanate from the Consulta of Finance. But this consulta is not to be named by the Government—the citizens are to elect it. Similar reforms are recommended in the administration of justice, and the note expresses the hope that after the execution of these reforms it will be possible to realise the idea of a Confederation, and also to come to an understanding with Sardinia. This paper gave rise to several deliberations of the Ministers, at which General Lamoricière was present, and spoke warmly in favour of the French councils. The majority of the Ministers acknowledged the necessity for great reforms, and it was decided that they should be accomplished. The Pope will not hear of a reconciliation with Victor Emmanuel, and is represented to have said that any understanding between him and 'that demon' is quite out of the question."

MR. ROSS, THE WINNER OF THE GREAT PRIZE AT THE SHOOTING-MATCH AT WIMBLEDON.

We this week present our readers with a Portrait of Mr. Ross, the young gentleman who was the hero of the National Rifle Association's grand shooting-match at Wimbledon.

It would appear that Mr. Ross, although he is a member of the 7th North York Rifles, is by birth a Scotchman, being, indeed, the son of the celebrated deer-stalker, who has already earned a reputation for long-range shooting.

At the distribution of the prizes at the Crystal Palace the name of Mr. Ross occupied the prominent position which it deserved as the winner of the Queen's prize of £250, as well as the gold medal of the society; and, although he was first called up to receive one of the association prizes, a very hearty enthusiasm greeted his appearance—an enthusiasm none the less genuine from his presenting such a youthful appearance. Indeed, it may be said that Mr. Ross was almost the only person there who did not display some excitement; and the slow, calm manner with which he paced across the platform produced a strange surprise, not, perhaps, unmixed with enthusiasm. Again he was called up to receive the prize subscribed by the ladies of Northampton, and still his manner was unchanged: neither slower nor quicker in his movements than before, he reached the chairman, gave a slight salute, received his prize, and walked calmly down again.

This time his unmoved demeanour would have provoked some laughter, but that, in fact, it was too modest to partake of a sham, and seemed somehow to belong properly to the constitutional nerve and calm self-possession of a "crack shot," born almost with a rifle waiting to be hung up over his cradle.

On his third appearance the applause was tumultuous; and, although he seemed undisturbed as ever, it would be difficult to imagine that his pulses did not beat somewhat the quicker for such an enthusiastic reception.

It was altogether a thing to be remembered—the bands of the Foot Guards playing "See, the conquering hero comes!" the youthful "hero" coolly pacing the platform in the same time and with no acceleration of pace, though he had been up twice before, his rather tall and slight figure moving slowly along till he reached the president. The congratulations of his friends and the members of the council, the happy expression on his father's face, and the hearty shake of the hand and slap on the shoulder which bespoke the old gentleman's pride, and, lastly, the shouts which greeted the exhibition of the medal, first to the public in front, and afterwards to the riflemen in the great orchestra, "it was good to see," as an able writer in one of the daily papers emphatically says; and we may add that the hearty shouting of the riflemen, who greeted with equal applause both their own countrymen and the foreign competitors, was good to hear.

It may be that Mr. Ross has had very great advantages, both in the tuition of his father—himself an accomplished rifleman—and in unusual facilities for practice; but, at the same time, it must not be forgotten that he had to match himself against the best men who were likely to present themselves, and that, against the skill and experience of men well trained and older than himself, he accomplished a feat the possibility of which has till very lately been often doubted altogether.

"A HOME STALL IN CARNARVONSHIRE."

WALES furnishes our painters with fewer subjects than Scotland, though with more, perhaps, than Ireland. Wales cannot, however, be

said to have been neglected by artists, of whom a certain number visit the principality every year, and bring back with them either representations of scenery (chiefly in the mountains) or, in a smaller number of cases, studies of Welsh peasant life. One of the best landscapes in

the Academy Exhibition last year was Mr. Knight's "Barley Harvest on the Welsh Coast," and Mr. D. Cox, junior, in his powerful picture entitled "The Carnarvonshire Mountains" (exhibited in the Old Water-colour Gallery), showed that he was fully impressed with the beauty of the mountain scenery of Wales. Carnarvonshire appears to be a favourite country with artists who make Welsh tours. Nor is this to be wondered at, for it abounds in landscapes ready-made, as it were, to the painter's hand; while the life of the Carnarvonshire peasantry is primitive, quaint, and highly interesting. Mr. G. Cole, however, in his picture entitled "A Home Stall in Carnarvonshire," has not attempted to depict any particular phase in Carnarvonshire peasant life. He has simply painted very cleverly the interior of what he calls "A Home Stall," in which are seen a horse, a couple of cows, and a calf—an assemblage of animals that might be found in the stables of small farmers in most parts of the United Kingdom. The little girl who is seated on the ground, and who looks as composed in the midst of the cattle as if their shed were her ordinary sitting-room (which, in all probability, it is), is thoroughly Welsh, not only in physiognomy, but also, and above all, in her occupation. Every Welsh girl is supposed to be great either at knitting stockings or at minding and milking cows; and Mr. Cole's young Cambrian is engaged in two of these pursuits, and, as the milk-pails in the corner seem to denote, is quite prepared for the third.

PRIZES GIVEN AT THE "BRASS BAND CONTEST" AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

OUR illustration (which is taken from a photograph by Negretti and Zambra) represents the prizes contended for by the brass bands at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday and Wednesday week:—First, an E flat contre-bass of circular form, with the extraordinary compass of three octaves, and, at the same time, possessing a most exquisite tone. This was the handsome gift of Mr. Distin, the well-known musical-instrument maker, of Newport-street, to the competitors for the first prize. The fine workmanship of the above instrument, which has been worthily named the "Champion Contre-bass," was the theme of general admiration both by the public and the musical world. The new mode of action for the valves was invented by Mr. Distin, who deserves great praise for his discovery. The Black Dyke Mills band, of Yorkshire, were fortunate enough to carry off this treasure, which they may well exhibit, not only as a memento of their successful competition, but also as a specimen of how near perfection musical instruments on an enlarged scale may be brought.

Second, a silver cup, presented to Mr. Longbottom, the bandmaster of the Black Dyke band.

Third, a silver cup, presented to Mr. R. Leversley, the bandmaster of the Cyfarthfa band.

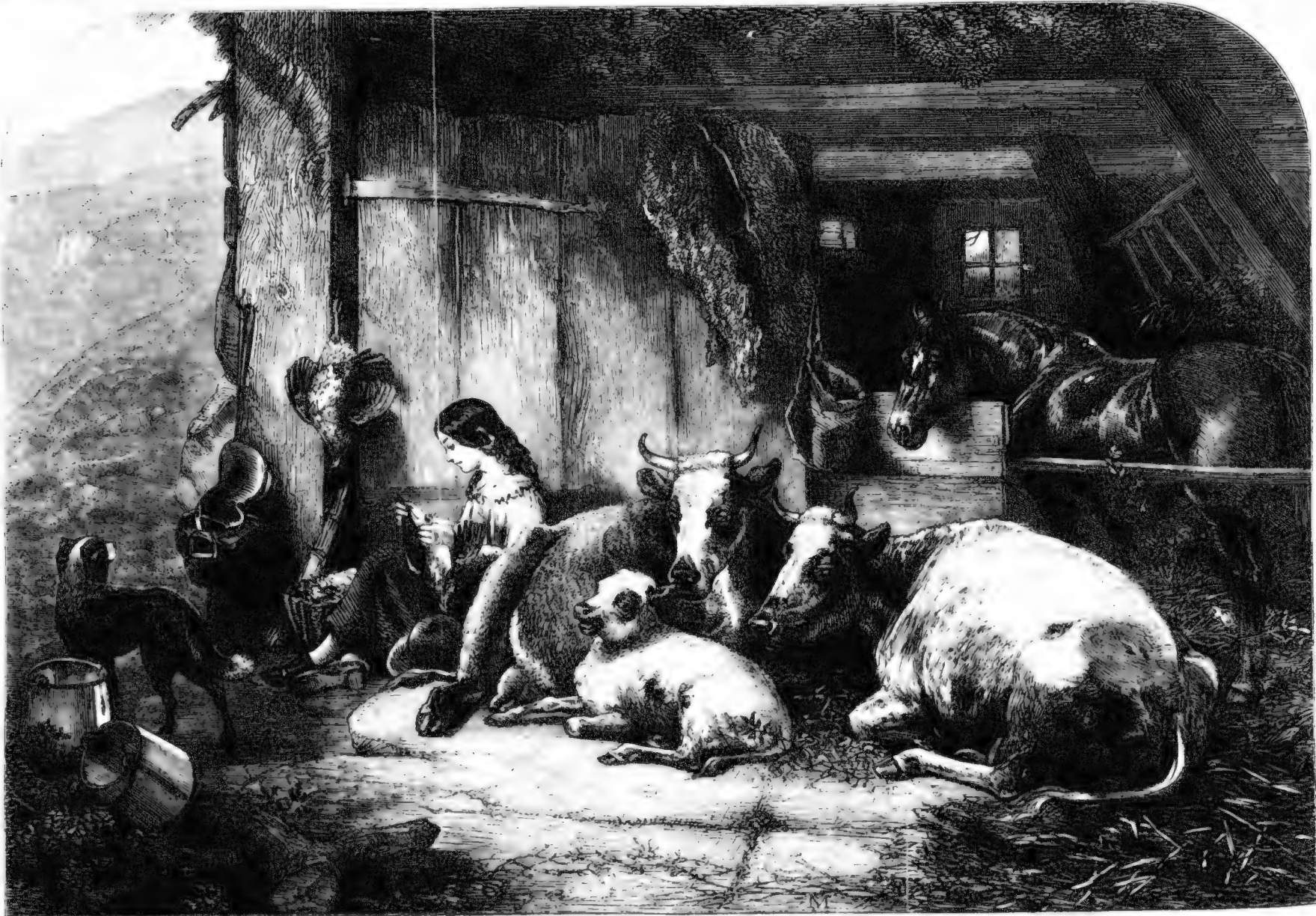
Fourth, a silver-plated cornet, manufactured by Messrs. Cartois, of Paris, and presented by Messrs. Chappel, to the best cornet-player of the Goldsmith saxhorn band.

We cannot but think that the present mode of offering prizes to the most deserving is the best possible way of encouraging all our musical amateurs, while from the numbers which have visited the Crystal Palace on the late occasions it would seem that the general public is of the same opinion.

LORD BELPER, of Kingston Hall, has been appointed Acting Lieutenant for the county of Nottingham during the absence from England of the Duke of Newcastle (the Lord Lieutenant) with the Prince of Wales on his American tour.



MR. EDWARD ROSS, THE WINNER OF THE QUEEN'S PRIZE AT THE RIFLE-SHOOTING CONTEST. (FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY CLAUDET.)



A HOMESTALL IN CARNARVONSHIRE. (FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY COLE.)

DRINKING-FOUNTAIN.

THE good work of erecting public drinking-fountains seems to progress as the hot weather advances, and it is difficult to estimate the public advantage of providing the ready means of refreshment during the sultry days which we are now experiencing. The novelty of the thing having worn off, we seldom see any confusion at these health-springs amidst the hot and reeking streets; the parties of boys who were wont to hustle each other for the possession of the goblets, only that they might sprinkle the contents over the bystanders and each other, no longer prevent the wayfarer from slaking his thirst. The fountain is fast becoming as common and far more convenient than the pump; indeed, in many cases, the new supply of fresh water gushes out from a wall hard by where the pump erected by some ancient benefactor, and having now done its kindly work for some two hundred years, has fallen dry, and points, with failing handle, to its modern representative of health and humanity.

We this week give an Engraving of the drinking-fountain just erected in the City-road, the gift of Mr. Barclay, a copy of the same having been constructed in the wall at the Chalk Farm station. This work of art—for it may well be so considered—adds to the utility of its original purpose the obvious advantage of a work of art, an advantage not to be lightly regarded in a city where too little attention to the beautiful, both in street architecture and even in public monuments, has been constantly evinced.

While the beneficial results of a liberal supply of pure water cannot be over-estimated as conducing both to public morals and to public health, it would be well to consider that even something of public education may be involved in the design and execution of the fountains themselves.

The refreshing draught over, that moment's pause of luxurious relief which comes afterwards would be well occupied by the eye meeting a pleasant and suggestive object which sends the passenger away in company with some refined and gentle thought.

Amidst the dust, the hurry, and the turmoil of a busy city street, the clear, sparkling draught, and the new train of ideas evolved from the welcome fountain, would indeed be a realisation of that "thing of beauty" which "is a joy for ever," and we cannot but commend an instance in which this union has been attempted. The fountain in the City-road, which is about three feet and a half high, consists of a marble alcove, sufficiently deep as a recess to keep the running stream cool, and to protect it from the sun. This recess is supported by a representation of Our Saviour and the Woman of Samaria at the well, and the whole design is surrounded by a border of natural foliage, a panel or tablet being preserved for the intended inscription.

The design and erection were intrusted to Messrs. Wills Brothers, sculptors, of Euston-road, who, we believe, can reproduce their works at a very small cost by their process of casting, and are already celebrated for the execution of fountains in iron and granite.

THE VOLUNTEERS' SHAM FIGHT.

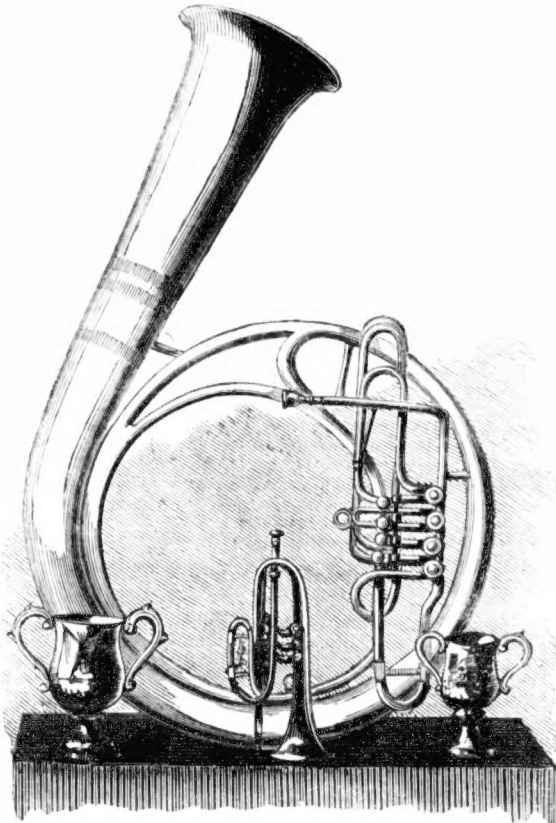
ON Saturday evening the sham fight of the Volunteers came off in the grounds of Camden Park, near the Southborough station. The noise of battle echoed through the green slopes and woods amid which the soldier-poet, Ben Jonson, may have discussed the "disciplines of the Roman wars" with the antiquary Camden, for the latter was the owner of the park and mansion, and the former his friend and frequent visitor.

There is always a good deal of "friction" to be allowed for in the machinery of war, and even the "dim image" of it is not exempted from the difficulty it causes. The non-official commissariat at Camden Park broke down, or rather was bought up and cleared out, early in the day, long before the fight began. At its close both armies had a taste of campaigning, but of nothing else. When night fell they found themselves fifteen miles from London, tired and thirsty, with refreshments not to be had in that very unprovided neighbourhood, and the prospect of getting back to town very dubious. One official programme, for which, however, the authorities do not appear to have been responsible, had promised that after the fight refreshments would be provided at what they called the bivouac tents, in the park, "by commissariat contractors, from Captain Grant's apparatus." The field kitchens, however, were not on the ground, but at Woolwich, the Government having declined to supply the horses required to transport them. The same programme spoke of Artillery as part of the forces engaged, but there were none. The space was very limited; in fact, all the movements were down the slope of one hill, and then, with a movement to the right, along and up the slope of another. The Commander-in-Chief had refused the application for Artillery to be employed at such close distance, and, probably, with very good reason. There were many thousands of spectators, and the whole of the ground was not one-fourth of the space of the long valley at Aldershot.

The greatest drawback, however, was the delay that retarded the action till the sun was disappearing behind the hills. Another half hour would have brought twilight. Many began to believe that the affair would not take place at all, and that some fatal hitch in the proceedings had occurred. As not a detachment of either army was visible all kinds of rumours were in circulation—of a broken-down train, of the non-arrival of most of the defending party. But, as many of the spectators had been on the ground as early as two o'clock, something must be allowed to impatience. It was seven o'clock before any visible movement was made, and five hours is a long time to wait.

At two o'clock the greater number present were from the country side; from that time the influx was metropolitan. The first-comers soon began to bear down on the refreshment-tent, with a result the later arrivals learned with dismay. Nor beef, nor ham, nor malt liquor could they obtain. Vendors of drink of some kind pervaded the ground, but their apparatus bore such a questionable appearance that courage as well as thirst was required to taste of the quality. The petty commerce of the London region does not study its market with much intelligence. In the evening we believe a few buckets of well water would have made handsome return. A can of beer carried along the front of a column would have broken the ranks.

We could fill the gap of time between two o'clock and seven with a description of the incidents on the ground, had there been any to describe; but there were none. Parties walked about and lay down weary, and then got up and walked again. There were a few picnics improvised with strawberries; a band of Ethiopians hovered on the outskirts of the crowd; and in the valley the bridge over the stream, one of the main points of the defence, was held by a card-sharper and the group round him, and he seemed to be doing a fair business, unless



PRIZES GIVEN AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE BRASS BAND CONTEST.

he had put his "bonnets" into uniform. The real proceedings of this interval were at a distance and invisible, on the railway between Southborough and London. The companies were being brought down and marched to their positions; their routes were marked for them by placards posted at different points between the station and the park. The companies of the corps of attack were posted in and behind Bickley-wood; those of the defence in the western portion of the grounds. They were kept under cover till the moment of action, and that was delayed beyond the time calculated by obstacles encountered between the points of departure and arrival, a too common incident of military operations.

The defending division included the following corps and companies, under the command of Colonel Hicks.—1st and 2nd battalions—Major Close, City Brigade; 3rd battalion—Captain M'Leod, Engineers; Hon. Captain Bruce, Six Feet Guards; Major Scott, 1st Kent Rifles; Captain Lamborne, 33rd Kent Rifles.

The attacking force, commanded by Lord Ranelagh, was much superior in point of numbers. It included the following corps:—1st brigade, Lord Radstock. 1st battalion—Major Compton, West Middlesex Rifles; Captain M'Innes, 3rd Middlesex Rifles; Captain Wil-

kinson, 14th Middlesex Rifles; 29th North Midland Rifles, Captain Ross. 2nd battalion, Major Beresford—Captain Hughes, 19th Middlesex Rifles; Captain Houghton, 20th Middlesex Rifles; Captain Buxton, Truman's Brewery Rifles; Major Beresford, 7th Surrey Rifles; Captain Emans, 4th Surrey Rifles; Captain Yeatman, 9th Surrey Rifles; Captain Hastie, 8th Surrey Rifles. 2nd brigade, Colonel Thorold.—1st battalion, M'Pherson—Major M'Pherson, South Middlesex Rifles; South Middlesex, Lieutenant Crossman, 8th Kent Rifles; and 2nd battalion, Major Farnell—Captain Harris, 13th Kent Rifles; 18th Kent Rifles; Captain Parker, 21st Kent Rifles; Lieutenant Rogers, 25th Kent Rifles; Captain Montgomery, 34th Kent Rifles; Lieutenant Carter, 4th Kent Rifles; Captain Dyke, 18th Kent Rifles; Lieutenant Drury, 3rd Kent Rifles. 3rd battalion, Lord Bury—Hon. Colonel Lindsay, St. George's Rifles; General Dowling, Paddington Rifles; Captain M'Gregor, Scottish Rifles; Lord Bury, Civil Service Rifles; Captain Phillips, Artists' Rifles; Captain Taylor, Barnet Rifles.

General Eyre, commanding at Chatham, was deputed by the Duke of Cambridge to act as inspecting officer on the occasion. Of the volunteers, unattached, who attended in uniform, many were engaged in keeping the ground. This we must describe. In the recesses of the Kentish hills, Camden Park includes the whole of one of these heights and the valley between it and Bickley-wood, which covers the opposite slope. The attacking force was concealed in the western part of this wood. There is a little stream in the centre of the valley; the vale itself ascends to the eastward, which portion of the park has been invaded by the builders, and four or five desirable villa residences, in the freshest condition of brick and mortar, disfigure the hill, looking as if they had been lifted at Clapham and dropped there by a hurried speculator. They are approached by the Chislehurst-road. On a line with the last of the row, and further up the hill, were the reserved seats for the purchasers of green tickets. They were well filled early in the afternoon. But the great mass of the spectators preferred the crest of the hill up the face of which the attacking force was to drive the corps of defence. This height terminates on the west in a sharp descent, with a difficult position for an assailant, in the shape of a hollow, with thick wood and a cluster of limekilns. The ground beyond them to the west is a grassy level, and on it was the first position of the defence, from which it threw out a line of skirmishers across the stream in the centre of the valley, to feel for the enemy in the wood opposite.

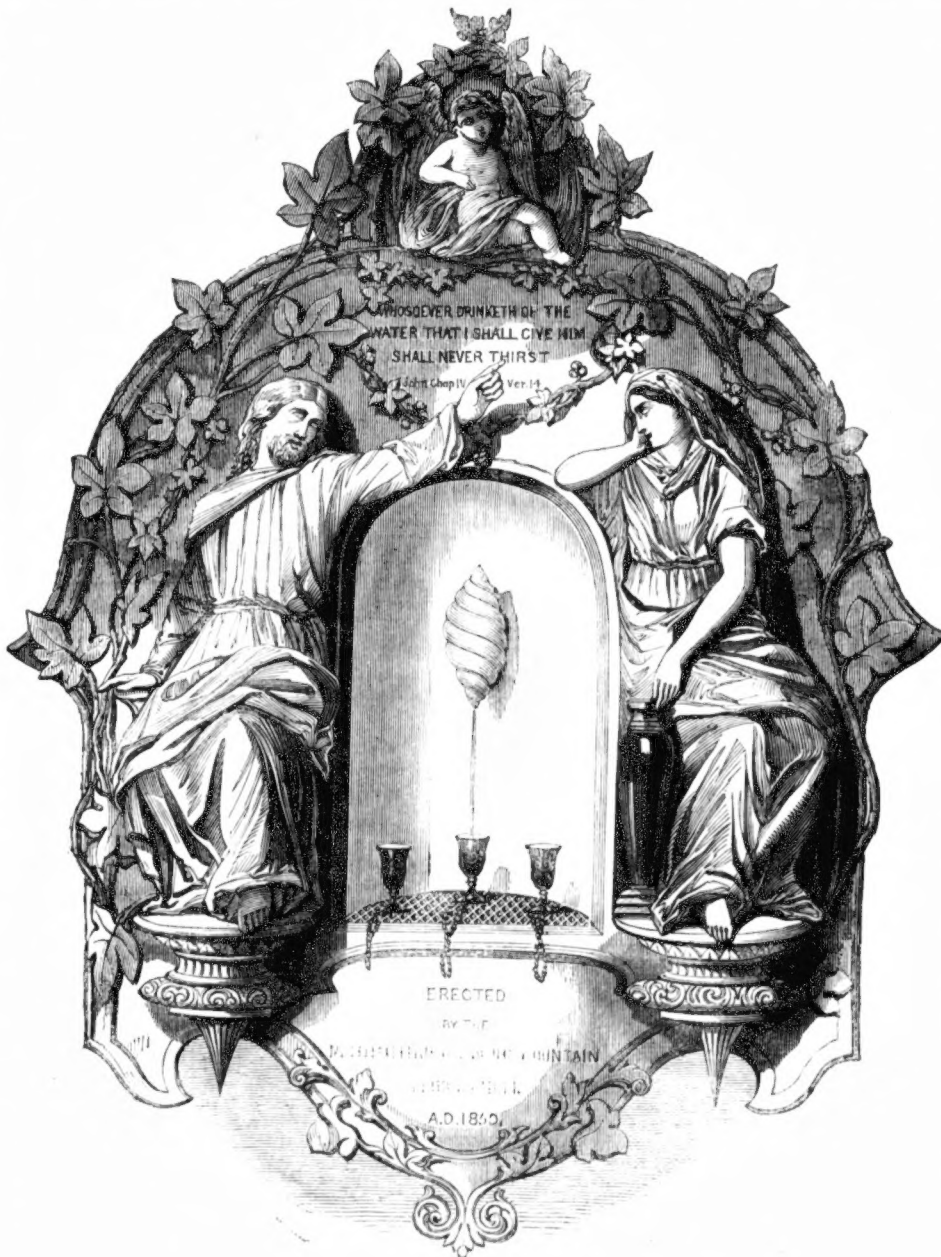
At seven o'clock the action commenced. The company of Engineers of the City Brigade, under Captain M'Leod, conspicuous by their red uniform, appeared on the right of the defended position, and, advancing, lined the edge of the wood, through which the enemy was approaching. The Engineers opened fire on them, and it was returned from the wood. A light, dropping fire continued for a few moments; then the Engineers fell back in skirmishing order on the open field, loading and firing rapidly. They were followed up by the enemy's skirmishers, who were also soon on the clear ground. When they had nearly driven their opponents to the stream in the centre of the vale, the main body of the attack suddenly issued from the wood, formed in line, advanced, and fired a volley. The skirmishers of the defence crossed the stream rapidly, and the attacking line pressed forward, keeping up a quick fire. As the wood from which they had issued here makes a bend, the ground was not wide enough for the whole line. In the centre it was four deep. This first appearance and advance of the attacking force was one of the best portions of the spectacle, particularly the dash out of the wood, which had concealed their forward movement by its "leafy screen." On the other side, while the skirmishers were retreating, the main body of the defence had been forming on the level to the right of the limekilns, their front defended by the little stream. Pressed still more sharply by the advance of the attacking line, the defence made a stand in the cover of the limekilns. The firing was heavy on both sides, volley following volley in quick succession; but the position soon became untenable. Part of the attacking line crossed the stream, and took its brave defenders on the right flank. Assailed

on two sides by superior numbers, nothing could be done but retire. The defence drew out of the cover and the chalkpits, and formed on the slope of the hill, the summit of which was crowded by spectators. They were followed up by the left wing of the attack, the right wing keeping in the valley, in a line parallel with the stream, gradually closing on its retreating foe, and keeping up a heavy fire on his front and flank. The defence again retired up the hill, and formed in position along the slope.

The attack, which had hitherto been made in line, was now made in two columns; but, in this form, was repulsed by the longer line of fire concentrated on its masses. The columns stopped, turned, and descended the hill at the double, partially disordered. It looked so much like real running away that some of the uninitiated spectators hissed disapprobation, but were themselves discomfited by the burst of laughter that told them the true state of the case. The columns were formed again very quickly, and returned to the charge, this time successfully; for repulse is not always defeat. The defending line broke and retired to their last position, their left on Camden House and their right towards Chislehurst-common, at which point of the action hostilities terminated.

It was a smart engagement of rather more than an hour. The firing, while it lasted, was heavy, and was made as varied as possible; there was the continued fire from the whole line, from right to left, volleys by companies, and volleys from the line again. Some of them were given with great precision, as if fired by one pull of the trigger—others left a straggling spatter of shots in arrear of time. But, as the first field-day on which the several corps had been out for such practice together, the proficiency shown was very creditable.

Could the operations have ended at the time they began it would have saved much serious inconvenience to the volunteers engaged and the thousands of spectators, for the return to London was the most difficult movement of the day. If the public interest in these military spectacles increases, as it is likely to do, and if they are frequently repeated, as they certainly will be, greater forethought must be exercised in the arrangements, or the consequences will surely be terrible. On Saturday there was a deficiency of carriages; the trains were filled the moment they drew up to the platform, and the rush each time was tremendous. At one o'clock on Sunday morning all the avenues leading from London-bridge were black with volunteers, marching home as gaily and with as elastic step as if they had not been hard at work from six o'clock on Saturday morning, and had not been left almost without refreshment on the ground. It is impossible to admire too much the patience, the cheerfulness, the jollity even, with which they stood all this. And, therefore, it is all the more to be regretted that the proceedings of the sham fight did not pass off without one accident of a somewhat serious character. It appears that after the West Middlesex had performed their skirmishing evolutions, and were again forming, one of the members of the



DRINKING-FOUNTAIN RECENTLY ERECTED IN THE CITY-ROAD.

corps, who had not discharged his rifle, put it, as he supposed, on half cock; but in the course of the movements the piece exploded, and the wadding entered the back of the gentleman immediately in front, Mr. Taylor, of Cornwall-terrace, Regent's Park, wounding him very severely. The unfortunate gentleman fell, and on the surgeon of the Highgate Rifles, who was in the immediate vicinity, attending upon him immediately, it was found that a portion of the wadding had entered the back nearly an inch and a half, carrying with it some of the clothing. The wadding was extracted, and the wound having been dressed, the unfortunate gentleman was moved from the field. A similar occurrence took place in the North Middlesex Corps, by which the hand of Mr. Griffiths, who is a corporal in the corps, was slightly injured.

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF THE RIFLE, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST AND MOST APPROVED SYSTEMS.

(Continued from page 3.)

IN resetting or putting the lock together again, the threads of the screws, as well as the pivot, and axle of the tumbler, and the pivots of the swivel, should be oiled before returning them to their respective situations, so that they may work easily. The other frictional parts of the lock to which oil should be applied are the nose of the sear and between the sear and searspring. A very little oil should be used, as an over quantity has a tendency to clog the parts. In cleaning a lock it is as well to use a pair of old gloves to prevent the heat and moisture of the hands acting on the metal and causing rust.

The parts of a lock are put together thus:—1. Put in the tumbler and swivel, driving the axletree home by using the handle of the screw-driver and striking it a few gentle blows; then screw on the hammer and put on the detent. 2. Screw on the searspring. 3. Put the sear in its place. 4. Fix on the bridge with the two screws and the searscrew. 5. Let down the hammer; hook the end of the mainspring on the swivel, and move it up into its position on the lockplate; unscrew the springvice, and the lock will again be complete. If the mainspring has not been left in the springvice, place it in its seat on the plate, and then screw the limbs together by the springvice sufficiently to allow the end being put into its place on the swivel, the hammer being down. Never confine the mainspring closer than is absolutely necessary, as it will weaken and spoil it. To ease the springs the hammer should always be let down upon the nipple when the rifle is not in use.

THE STOCK.

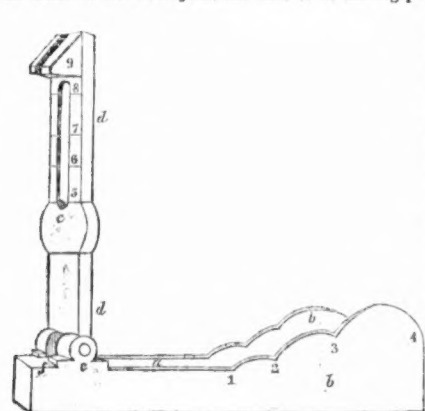
The several parts of the stock are indicated in the following diagram, viz:—A the nose-cap. B the bands. C the swell. D the lockslide. E the projection. F the head. G the small. H the trigger-guard. I the butt. a the toe. / the heel. M the heelplate. N the springbands. O the breech-nails. P the side-nails.

THE BARREL.

The second figure represents the barrel. A is the muzzle. B the foresight. C the backsight. D the nipple-lump. The grooving of the barrel we have already described.

THE BACK OR ELEVATING SIGHT.

The back or elevating sight, which is a somewhat complicated piece of machinery, the annexed diagram will assist the reader in comprehending. It is the backsight which enables the rifleman to arrange his piece so as to cover the object aimed at without, according to the old system, aiming at a man's chest or his feet when it is intended to shoot him in the head. His barrel is in reality very considerably elevated above the object with the sliding-sight, but by aligning the back and fore sights he seems to his own eye at the time to be aiming point blank. a is the



THE BACK OR ELEVATING SIGHT.

bed and lies on the flanges. At any range over five hundred yards the flap is entirely raised, and stands upright, as shown in the diagram; and for every hundred yards above that the slider is moved up, the rifleman looking through the flap when aiming, and aligning the nick with the foresight. When nine hundred yards is passed he looks over the flap, and aligns the foresight with the nick in the cap g.

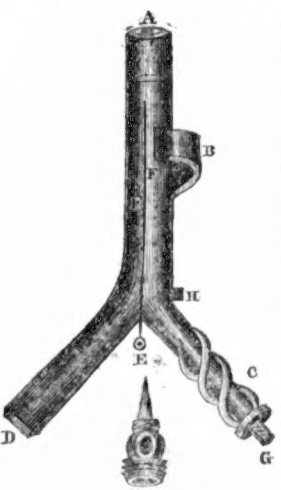
THE FITTINGS.

Adjoining the head of the stock, and at the termination of the barrel is the breech, attached to which, and continuing rearwards along the head, is a narrow piece of metal called the tang. Between the breech and the barrel is a large hollow screw. The several parts of the nipple are the cone against which the hammer strikes while the piece is being snapped or fired. The cone is perforated by the touch-hole, an aperture which leads directly into the barrel. The nipple is screwed into the nipple-piece; the shoulder and square are the parts between the cone and screw. The different parts of the ramrod are the head, the jag, and the swell. All rifles fitted with solid bands and springs have ramrods with a swell; but those fitted with the screwbands are straight from top to toe. The several parts of the trigger are the finger, the box, the stud, and the plate.

THE NIPPLE-WRENCH.

The nipple-wrench, although not, properly speaking, a part of the rifle, is a most necessary adjunct, as the piece cannot be taken to pieces without it, and in the army every soldier is supplied with an instrument of the kind. In the accompanying diagram the different parts are indicated as follows:—A, the nipple-wrench; B, the cramp-hook; C, the worm or double wrench; D, the turn-screw; E, the oiling-wire; F, the reservoir for oil; G, the lever; H, the stud.

We have been thus diffuse in describing the Enfield rifle because it has not only up to the present time been almost the only weapon of a really good construction which has been found available for military purposes, at a reasonable price, but is the one with which not only the



THE NIPPLE-WRENCH.

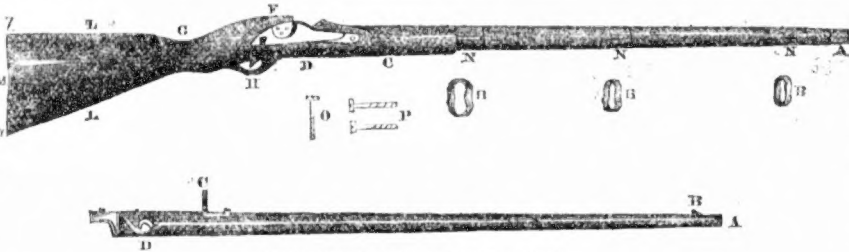
regular army but the volunteer forces will be principally armed for a long time to come. The rifle which comes nearest in point of price to the Enfield, and possesses all the attributes of that excellent weapon, with what many persons consider an improvement in the grooving, is

THE BOUCHER RIFLE.

In this rifle, which is made according to the Government pattern as regards the lock and stock, the number of grooves in the barrel is five. They are rounded in the concavities, are very shallow, and have no lands or space between the grooves, which are the same in depth from top to bottom, and have one turn in five feet. Colonel Boucher's theory seems in many respects to have some foundation, as, with all its good qualities, the Enfield rifle has a tendency to foul, owing to the depth of its grooves; while those made on Colonel Boucher's system possess sufficient indentation to decrease the friction, and will fire a considerable number of shots without having their accuracy diminished by the deposit from the gunpowder. It must also be borne in mind that the friction is caused by the lands alone, and that when the space between the grooves is diminished an advantage is undoubtedly gained. Besides, by making the grooves shallow and more numerous we economise the powder, as two drachms can then be made as effective as two drachms and a half, when a portion of the gases is not only permitted to escape, but to create an extra resistance in front of the bullet instead of being restricted to a pressure behind. As narrow lands offer less resistance to the expansion of the bullet, the atoms or particles of lead separate more quickly to one side than the other. The advocates of shallow grooving have also a plausible argument in the fact that, the shallow grooves being filled instantly by the lead, the bullet will be in easy contact with them during nearly its entire passage through the barrel, and, the action being smooth and gentle, it runs less hazard of losing its original form.

THE LANCASTER RIFLE.

The leading peculiarity of the rifle introduced to the public by Mr. Lancaster is the method of grooving. This is effected by simply making the bore of an elliptical form instead of round, the grooves having no edges. Colonel Jacob calls it a modification of the old military two-grooved rifle. The bore, in fact, except for its deviation from the perfect circle, is as smooth as that of a shot-gun; and although a certain increase of friction must be the result of so large a space of metal being in contact with the bullet before expansion, yet it is possible that it may be compensated for by the fact of the bullet being in now jagged or indented previous to leaving the barrel. The bullet used with the Lancaster rifle is one of two and a half diameters in length, with a windage of four or five thousandths, or just enough to admit of its being rammed



STOCK AND BARREL OF ENFIELD RIFLE.

home when covered with a piece of very thin greased paper. This bullet is pointed at the fore part, with a hollow at the base for expansion, and its circumference is shaped just sufficiently out of a true circle to fit the bore easily. To use any other form of projectile with these rifles is doing a great injustice to Mr. Lancaster.

THE WHITWORTH RIFLE.

It would be simply a truism to assert that the rifle produced by Mr. Whitworth is the very best, so far as its capacity for shooting goes, and one of the chief objections to its universal adoption is the expensive nature of its construction, while it seems hopeless to expect that any reduction of price could coexist with its present admirable mechanism. The leading characteristics of Mr. Whitworth's rifle are—1st, its polygonal bore, the gauge of which is about forty-eight; 2nd, its barrel, which is in length thirty inches, with a pitch in rifling of one turn in twenty inches, causing the bullet to make nearly two complete revolutions before leaving the barrel. He has, however, made some in which the bullet makes seven or eight complete turns in the barrel. The interior of the barrel is bored and grooved with a marvellous degree of precision, and the fitting of the projectile corresponds so exactly with the grooving that any deviation in its flight is an impossibility. The bullets are conical for about the length of half a diameter from the foremost end, and hexagonal for the remainder of their length, or two and half diameters, the sides of the hexagon having an inclination corresponding with those of the bore. During some experiments at Hythe the Whitworth rifle drove some bullets into the target at a range of 1880 yards, or one-third more than a mile. This beautiful weapon has, however, up to the present time another drawback in addition to its high price, and that is its tendency to foul after a rather limited amount of firing. Mr. Whitworth's projectiles rotate at the rate of 15,000 revolutions per minute during their flight.

THE AMERICAN RIFLES.

In speaking of American rifles a very great distinction must be made between the rifles manufactured in America for military purposes and those used in match-shooting. The former have a bore somewhat larger than the Enfield, with three grooves equal in length to the lands, and rounded in shape, or rather rectangular, as they have square edges. The grooves, like those of the Enfield rifle, incline to a greater depth as they approach the breech. In other respects the military rifle of the Americans possesses no remarkable feature.

The rifles used by the Americans for match-shooting have barrels manufactured of thoroughly annealed steel, of considerable weight and thickness compared with the limited dimensions of the bore. The barrels are cut or planed on the outside into an octagon form, and are about two feet eight inches long. They are fitted with a loading-muzzle, which is movable, and preserves the muzzle of the rifle from receiving injury by coming in contact with the ramrod. The weight of the barrel is ten pounds; the breech is made of wrought iron, case-hardened. The bore of the barrel is three-eighths of an inch, or about ninety round balls to the pound. The conical balls called pickets are forty-three to the pound. A globe-light is fixed into the stock just behind the break-off, and a beadsight at the muzzle. The cost of such a weapon in America is from 50 to 200 dollars. A first-class American match-shooter can with a rifle of this kind make ten consecutive shots at 250 yards range, and strike a space no larger than a small playing-card each time. The Americans object to a greater twist than one turn in six feet, as they say it increases the lateral deviation of the bullet, and that this deviation is variable, increasing in a greater ratio than the distance fired, and that it is greater as the rotatory motion of the bullet is made more rapid.

THE FRENCH RIFLES.

The rifles used by the French infantry, although last year having had their barrels cut down an inch, are still an inch longer than the long Enfield. They have four grooves of .028 inch in breadth, .008 inch in depth, and have a spiral of little less than one turn in six feet six inches. They are sighted for 600 metres, or 656 yards, the military authorities considering that range quite sufficient for infantry soldiers. We must not, however, take this as the ultimatum of the savants of the French military school, as it is evidently a mere work of expediency, like a former one, to enable them to make the best use of their old muskets.

The French entertain certainly original ideas with respect to the different degrees of twist in the barrel. In trying experiments with long bullets they report that, in proportion as the ball increases in length, and consequently in weight, grooves with greater inclinations at smaller charges of powder should be used. They consider that

with weak charges of powder the twist of the grooves may be very great, but with powerful charges the inclination should be very slight. The fallacy of this theory is evident. A very little scientific calculation will convince us that, in proportion as the bullet is made longer, it is not only indispensable that a more rapid rotatory motion should be given to it, but that the effects of the greater inclination in the spiral will be lost if the propelling force is not also increased. The bullet should be driven rapidly through the barrel, or a greater twist in the spiral will be of no avail.

The Sardinian Government has lately offered a premium for a rifle which shall best answer the requirements of infantry, and particularly riflemen; but, as yet, although there are many excellent shots among the Bersaglieri, the Army of Sardinia has no small arms worth speaking of. The Swiss, although their reputation is a European one, have really nothing worthy the name of a rifle; and a strong doubt arises in our mind whether their success at the late shooting tournament would have been so complete had not the French authorities the goodnature to lay an embargo on the clumsy pieces of machinery with which they were incumbered, and thereby gave them a chance of using weapons which really astonished them. In our conversations with some Swiss gentlemen at Wimbledon they expressed considerable surprise at the long ranges at which we shot in England—150 yards being in Switzerland considered a very great stretch indeed. Very little can be said of the rifle-shooting of the ermine-hunters of Siberia. Their ranges are counted by feet instead of yards, and even that to a very limited extent. Like the American Indians, they kill more animals by artfully dodging them than by skillfully firing at them from a distance. The primitive weapons used by the Siberian hunters could not by possibility enable them to shoot at long ranges were the hunters the most heaven-gifted marksmen that ever lived. A weapon that requires, during a hunting expedition, to be repaired from time to time with a bit of string and a twig could not, except by chance, enable a man to hit his mark unless he almost took aim within a dozen feet.

(To be continued.)

THE OPERAS.

WEBER'S "Oberon" (with the addition of the duet between Adolar and Euryanthe and four other pieces from that opera of Weber by which "Oberon" was preceded) is still the great attraction at Her Majesty's Theatre. At the Royal Italian Opera the "Prophète" has been revived with all the magnificence which characterised its first production at that establishment, and with Tambril and Mme. Csillag in the principal parts. It is astonishing that, at a theatre whose resources allow of the performance of "Oberon" as "Oberon" is performed at Her Majesty's, an opera like Signor Campana's three-nights' wonder should ever have been brought out, and equally so that at Covent Garden, which owes so much of its high repute to the manner in which the masterpieces of Rossini and Meyerbeer have been presented on its boards, a pretentious vaudeville like Victor Massé's "Noces de Jeannette" should even be promised. The production of this last-named work would do as much harm, in the way of character, to the Royal Italian Opera as that of "Orfeo" has done good; and, on the whole, we doubt whether, in spite of Mme. Miolan's brilliant singing in the principal part, it would prove even as attractive. Let us hope that we shall hear no more of it; nor, indeed, is it probable that we shall, considering how near the season is now to its close. On the other hand, we shall lose M. Gounod's "Faust," which many were anxious to hear, and which the public had been led to expect would certainly be produced. However, if the directors of the Royal Italian have not fulfilled all their promises, it should be remembered that managerial promises must always be considered as, to a certain extent, conditional. Before the commencement of the season much is anticipated, perhaps, from the triumphant success of one or more new singers whose success turns out not to be quite so triumphant as had been expected. Thus, for instance, neither Mme. Miolan-Carvalho, who is, nevertheless, one of the most brilliant singers of the day, nor Mme. Csillag, who is one of our finest dramatic vocalists, has produced a sufficiently marked impression to justify the management of the Royal Italian Opera in bringing out any more operas than have been already given for the special purpose of exhibiting their talents in the best possible light. Admirably as Mme. Csillag fills the part of Fides in the "Prophète," it is not for her alone that that work has been revived at the Royal Italian Opera; and the style in which it is presented reflects equal credit on all the principal artists who appear in it, on the chorus, on the unrivalled orchestra, on the scene-painters, and on the general management of the stage and of the theatre itself. And here we may remark that the production of an opera like the "Prophète" at Covent Garden is almost as arduous an undertaking as the production of an entirely new work of the same magnitude and importance, inasmuch as every vestige of the furniture and appurtenances was destroyed in the fire which burned the Royal Italian Opera to the ground. The "Prophète," then, as well as "Fidelio," deserves to be ranked among the new productions of the present season quite as much as "Orfeo."

At Her Majesty's Theatre the season is at an end, and Mongini has gone to Italy; but also (as the advertisements inform us) Mongini has been summoned by telegraph to return, and the season has recommenced. The same operas are being performed ("Oberon," the "Huguenots," "The Barber of Seville," &c.), with the same excellent casts, only at lower prices, of which the "general public" surely will not complain. Mr. E. T. Smith has, moreover, issued a very important announcement in reference to his arrangements for a season of English operas in the autumn. Mdlle. Titiens (now thoroughly conversant with the English language) and Mdlle. Parepa have been engaged; and the manager has also secured the services of Mr. Sims Reeves and Mr. Santley. Two new operas by English composers are promised—Mr. G. W. Macfarren's "Robin Hood," and Mr. Vincent Wallace's "Amber Witch."

Admirably as "Oberon" is executed at Her Majesty's Theatre, we think the opera suffers somewhat in point of attractiveness from Mr. Benedict's additional recitatives. Weber's favourite pupil may have written them in the true Weberian style, and they may even be worthy of Weber himself, but every one remembers the wearisome effect of the recitatives introduced by Meyerbeer into the Italian version of his own "Etoile du Nord;" and there has scarcely ever been an instance of recitative being substituted with advantage for dialogue, or, vice versa, in any opera. When, however, an operatic work has to be produced on the Italian stage there is no choice but to connect the various pieces by means of recitatives; and, undoubtedly, the best that could be done in this respect has been done by Mr. Benedict. Nor (lengthiness apart) have recitatives anything of the bad effect in Mr. Benedict's new version of "Oberon" that they certainly have in M. Berlioz's greatly-praised edition of "Der Freischütz"—a work which should be simply regarded as a popular legend dramatised and set to music—a melodrama with unusually fine airs, choruses, and concerted pieces, but in which the principal parts are played by peasants, and in which the pomposity, mock or real, which always belongs to recitative is out of place. The history of the score of "Oberon" has been a curious one. Every one says that the work is a masterpiece, and yet every one who has the opportunity adds something to it or takes something away, or, if possible, does both. Thus we have an English, a German, a French, and an Italian version of "Oberon," each of which differs from all and each of the others. We believe there is even a Russian version of this much-adapted opera; and a manuscript score of the work (which passes for the original) is shown at the Imperial Library of St. Petersburg, in which each piece bears a date in Weber's handwriting. At the end of the overture is the following note:—"Finished in London, April 7, 1826, at three-quarters past eleven at night, with the entire opera of 'Oberon.' *Soli Deo gloria.*" After the introduction:—"Finished September 11, 1825, in the garden of Kolsachen;" after the chorus of spirits—"Finished November 11, 1825, at Dresden;" after the first act—"This first act was terminated November 18, 1825," &c. &c.

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RICH FLOUNCED BAREGE ROBES,
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Reduced to 10s. 6d. Trimmings included.
Worth from 1s. to 2 guineas.
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Several Cases of the New Fabric,
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Full Dress.
An Immense Variety of
FRENCH ORGANDIE MUSLINS, now
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Several Hundred Designs in
FRENCH and SWISS CAMBRICS,
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Patterns of all the above sent to any part of the World
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With Stars, Rings, Coins, &c., five dozen on each net, 4s. 11d.
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GENERAL DRAPEY ESTABLISHMENT, 105, 106, 107, & 108,
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ROBES! ROBES! ROBES!!!
The Brighton Robe. The Marine Robe.
The Seaside Robe. The Leamington Robe.
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The Killarney Robe, or the The Windermere Robe, for the
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The Seaport Robe. The Marmalade Robe.
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Sent free for 2s. extra.

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Draper's Trade, the manufacturers and their agents have been
compelled to throw into the market a considerable portion of their
Summer Stock, at largely-reduced prices.
JAMES SPENCE and CO. have secured some of these important
and valuable Lots, which they are now showing at such prices as
will ensure to the public the full benefit of their most advantageous
purchases.

AN EARLY INSPECTION IS REQUESTED.
The following are the class of Goods to which the above refers:—
RAISED SATIN BARS, all Pure Silk, wide width, £1 5s. 6d.
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CANNELLE CROSSOVER STRIPES, all Bright Silk and very
stout, £1 7s. 6d. the Dress.
Wide Width BLACK DUCAPES, 2s. 3d. per yard.
Wide Width BLACK GLACES, 2s. 6d. per yard.
Wide Width FRENCH GLACES, very bright, 3s. 3d. per yard.
ELEGANT NOVELTIES in BROCHES, MOIRE ANTIQUES,
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Several Lots of MANTLES, in SILK, MOHAIR, TRANS-
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Three Guineas.
FRENCH LACE SQUARE SHAWLS, all Pure Silk, 16s. 9d.,
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REAL SPANISH LACE SHAWLS, 35s., and really elegant at
Two Guineas.
A quantity of CHEVIOT MOHAIRS, 8s. 9d. and 10s. 6d., former
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A Lot of FLOUNCED BALZARINE ROBES, 6s. 11d., and
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SPECIAL.—One-and-a-Half Guinea FRENCH BAREGE
ROBES for 10s. 9d.
2, 5, 7 FLOUNCED MUSLIN ROBES, 6s. 11d., former price
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Several very cheap Lots of RIBBONS, PARASOLS, GLOVES, &c.
JAMES SPENCE and CO.,
77 and 78, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD.
Shut on Saturdays at Five o'clock.

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THE NEW TARIFF.
Great Reduction on all FOREIGN SILKS, FOREIGN
MUSLINS and BAREGES, FOREIGN RIBBONS, FOREIGN
VELVETS, FOREIGN FANCY TRIMMINGS, FOREIGN
LACES, and FRENCH KID GLOVES, at this ESTABLISH-
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MARRIAGE TROUSSEAU, real BRUXELLES,
medium BOITON, IRISH FLOUNCED and VEILS.—The most
wholesale house for Lace, Wedding Orders and India Outfits,
where every article is to be obtained of the best materials and
hand make, at the lowest possible prices.
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5000 CHURCH SERVICES, ELEGANTLY
MOUNTED, from 4s. 6d.
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NO CHARGE FOR PLAIN STAMPING.
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Useful Copy Note, 2s. per ream. Bordered Note, 3s. 9d. per ream.
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Super-thick Cream Laid Adhesive Envelopes, 6s. 6d. per 1000.
Large Blue Office Ditto, 4s. 6d. per 1000, or 10,000 for £25. 6d.
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DAVID SMITH, Manager. JOHN OGILVIE, Secretary.
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LIFE ASSURANCE.
POLICIES EFFECTED WITH THIS COMPANY DURING
THE PRESENT YEAR WILL BE ENTITLED TO SIX YEARS'
BONUS AT NEXT DIVISION OF PROFITS.

The Company last year issued 605 Policies, Assuring £449,000.
At last investigation, 31st December, 1859, the ascertained profits
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ADVANTAGES OFFERED BY THE COMPANY.
SECURITY.—The Company has now been established for Fifty
Years, and in addition to the Capital, the ACCUMULATED
FUNDS amount to £1,031,454.
DIVISION OF PROFITS.—The large proportion of NINETEEN PER
CENT is allotted to Policies, with profits.
FREEDOM FROM RESTRICTION.—Certificates are issued
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The attention of the public is specially called to the DOUBLE
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The Company insure against every description of Property,
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R. STRACHAN, Secretary.
4, New Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London, March, 1860.

THE LIVERPOOL and LONDON FIRE and
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Offices—No. 1, Dale-street, Liverpool; 20 and 21, Poultry, Lon-
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New York.

This Company, by its numerous Branches and Agencies throughout
Europe, Asia, Australasia, South Africa and America, affords
peculiar advantages to persons effecting Fire and Life Insurances.
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Marble-top Washstands, 25 guineas. The whole of the above is a
decided bargain.

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PERAMBULATORS? See T. THOMAS'S New Patent
Perambulators, adapted for SAFETY, HEALTH, and
COMFORT of Infants and Invalids. All kinds on view. High-
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SAFE, all secured by their Gunpowder-proof Steel plated
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Watch, Clock, and Chronometer Maker by special appointment to
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Same principle as all regulators and astronomical clocks.
Goes eight days. Warranted. Full description on receipt of
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Complete, Best Quality, Breakfast, Dessert, Tea, and Toilet
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PREPARED CORN
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Custards, Blancmanges, Cakes, &c.
Was honourably mentioned at the Great Exhibition, Hyde Park.
Also
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SUMMER RECIPE FOR
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Boil the flour with milk for four minutes, then pour it over the
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BROWN and POLSON, Paisley, Manchester, Dublin, and London.

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BRANDY.—This celebrated OLD IRISH WHISKY rivals
the finest French Brandy. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious,
and very wholesome. Sold in Bottles, 3s. 6d. each, at most of the
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in the principal towns in England. Observe the red seal, pink
label, and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky." Wholesale at
Great Windmill-street, Haymarket.

WHEN YOU ASK FOR
GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH,
SEE THAT YOU GET IT.
AN INFERIOR KINDS ARE OFTEN SUBSTITUTED.
WOTHERSPOON and Co., Glasgow and London.

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ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL
promotes the GROWTH, RESTORES, IMPROVES, and
CURES THE RUINED HAIR, the BEARD, WHISKERS,
and MOUSTACHIOS. Price 3s. 6d., 7s., 10s. 6d. (equal to four
small), and 21s. per bottle. Sold at 20, Hatton-garden; and by
Chemists and Perfumers.

DEAFNESS.—A newly-invented Instrument for
extreme cases of Deafness, called the Sound Magnifier,
Organic Vibrator, and Invisible Voice Conductor. It fits into the
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relief to the deaf person, and enables them to hear distinctly at
church and at public assemblies. As also every other kind of hear-
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Branch, and to Gravesend, Strood, and Maidstone, at the usual
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Hythe, Tunbridge Wells, at 2.30 p.m.; Hastings, St. Leonards,
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25th of luggage allowed each passenger, to be taken in his own
charge. For all information see bills.
C.W. EBORALL, General Manager.

JULIEN FESTIVAL, on TUESDAY, July 31,
at the ROYAL SURREY GARDENS, for the Benefit
of Madame JULIEN, on which occasion the Proprietors
of the Royal Surrey Gardens have, in the most generous manner,
placed the entire establishment at the disposal of the disposal
of Madame JULIEN. The following celebrated artists have also
most kindly volunteered their valuable services, gratuitously, for
this occasion.
Vocalists—Mme. Catherine Hayes, Mme. Gassier, Mlle. Marie
Brunetti (of Her Majesty's Theatre, by kind permission of E. T.
Smith, Esq.), Mlle. Louise Vining, Mme. Weiss, Mlle.
Enrichetta Camille, Miss Poole, Miss Palmer, Miss Laura Baiter,
the Misses Brougham, Miss Kate Rance, and Mlle. Parepa. M.
Gassier (by kind permission of E. T. Smith, Esq.), Mr. W. R. M.
Wilby Cooper, Mr. Leonard Mr. Patey, and Mr. Sims Reeves.
Instrumentalists—Miss Arabella Gassier.
The Choir of the Vocal Association, consisting of Two Hundred
Voices, under the direction of Mr. Benedict.
The Orchestra will include the principal members of the Bands
of Her Majesty's Theatre and the Royal Italian Opera and the
Soloists of the late M. Julien's orchestra; the Band of the Gren-
adier Guards by kind permission of Colonel Lambert; under the
direction of Mr. D. Godfrey; the Band of the Coldstream Guards
by kind permission of Colonel Lord P. Paulet, C.B.; under the
direction of Mr. Godfrey; the Band of the Fusilier Guards (by kind
permission of Colonel Kidley), under the direction of Mr. Charles
Godfrey, jun.

Conductors—Mr. Alfred Mellon, Conductor of the Orchestral
Union; D. James Peck, M. Emile Berger, and M. Benedict. The
Programme will include Julien's celebrated British Army
Quadrilles, English Quadrilles, and his Last Waltz (first time of
performance).
Admission, 1s.; Dress Circle, 3s.; Second Circle, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.
extra. Places can be secured at Messrs. Chappell's, 50, New Bond-
street; Mr. Sam's, 1, St. James's-street; Messrs. Keith and
Prowse's, 48, Cheapside; also tickets at Pigott's, Kennington-
common.

MR. and Mrs. GERMAN REED
and Mr. JOHN PARRY.—Every Evening (except Satur-
day) at Eight, Thursday and Saturday Afternoons at Three, in
their "Popular Entertainment" at the ROYAL GALLERY OF
ILLUSTRATION, 11, Regent street. Admission, 1s., 2s., Stalls,
3s.; Stall-chairs, 5s. Secured at the Gallery; and at Cramer, Beale,
and Co.'s, 201, Regent street.

WASHINGTON FRIENDS' GRAND
MUSICAL and PICTORIAL ENTERTAINMENT,
entitled TWO HOURS IN CANADA AND UNITED STATES,
illustrating 5000 miles of beautiful scenery, the Falls of Niagara,
River St. Lawrence, Great Victoria Tubular Bridge, American
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adventures, and sing original songs and melodies of the country,
accompanying himself upon seven instruments.—Daily at Three
and Eight. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. ST. JAMES'S
HALL, Piccadilly.

WILL SHORTLY CLOSE.—THE RELIEF
of LUCKNOW.—Mr. T. J. Barker's Great Picture (18 feet
by 12 feet), painted by authority, is NOW ON VIEW, at the
Lucknow Gallery, 5, Waterloo place. Pall-mail, together with the
New Portraits, just completed, of the late Sir Henry Havelock,
Bart., and Sir James Outram, Bart. Admission by card, 6d. each.
All cards issued available until close of exhibition.

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